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WITH A SUPPLEMENT,
FIVEPENCE.



INSIDE PARIS: A SALE BY AUCTION IN THE FISH MARKET (SKETCH BY BALLOON POST).

LONDON SCHOOL BOARD ELECTIONS.

The present week will take rank, we trust, among the memorable weeks of the year. It has witnessed the practical institution of a great and beneficent enterprise. The election of the first London School Board is a proceeding that, in point of suggestiveness and pregnancy, will furnish a topic of historical record vastly more interesting than many others which the events of 1870 will supply. It was, to be sure, a comparatively noiseless affair, and in these days of loud sensational occurrences may seem to have lacked spirit and dignity. But if, in its silence and quietude, it seemed less noticeable than the sudden changes produced amidst uproar and violence by the yet unfinished war, it did but resemble in that respect the falling of the dew as contrasted with the bellowing of the tempest. The latter engrosses our attention for the moment; the former quickens by its influence the objects which will, in due process, fill it, dwell in it, delight it, shed a glory upon it. Tuesday last should, and surely will be, distinguished in the metropolitan calendar as a red-letter day. Not, indeed, that the School Board Elections, which were then determined, were, either in process or in result, all that we hope they will one day be; but, at any rate, they were a highly-promising commencement of an undertaking which half a century hence, perhaps, our countrymen will more heartily rejoice over, and take a more honest pride in, than any of the triumphs achieved by the arms of their forefathers.

For the first time in our history there has been called into existence a body—may we not call it a highly capable body?—charged by law with the responsibility of doing constant battle with mental ignorance in the metropolis, and armed by law with all the authority and appliances which will help it to carry the contest to a successful issue. They have it in trust to see that a sound elementary education be given to every child in the metropolis—making no exceptions—defeated by no impediments—diverted from their purpose by no pretext, how specious soever. Fifty persons, save one, have been returned as the Educational Parliament of London. They have been elected by an almost unrestricted suffrage. Several of them belong to the highest social class—some of them are eminently qualified by their antecedent pursuits for the onerous but most honourable task assigned to them—and all of them, it may be fairly presumed, are impelled by the laudable ambition of achieving distinction in the field upon which they have entered. They have at their disposal powers and resources such as no school association in this country ever before could boast of. They possess the means, and will be bound to use them, of ascertaining with accuracy the educational wants of a district comprising three millions of inhabitants. They can build, hire, or locate school-houses very nearly at discretion. They can appoint managers, choose masters, frame regulations, direct studies, select books; in a word, do almost everything which an intelligent supervision of elementary education takes it for granted should be done. And when they have provided school-houses and schoolmasters they can, if they will, forthwith proceed to fill them, by remitting fees to destitute parents, and by gently and indirectly, or roughly and directly, coercing negligent, depraved, or socially worthless parents.

A representative, deliberative, and, within no very narrow limits, legislative, body such as was elected by the ratepayers of the metropolis on Tuesday last, cannot do its special work, even with but moderate success, without suggesting to Londoners many important inquiries. Why cannot this vast concourse of living beings be organised into a community for other necessary purposes besides education? It has been demonstrated by the event of the week that gentlemen of the highest culture, of dazzling talent, of great affluence, of commanding position, of aptitude, leisure, and qualifications for public life, are not unwilling to offer their services to their fellow-citizens, provided only that honourable scope be found for their energies and adequate authority be vested in their discretion. London—we except, of course, the City proper—stands deplorably in need of municipal government. No small portion of its disease, much of its squalor and misery, and not a few of its inconveniences, annoyances, and discomforts, its hidden dangers, its worst seductions, its most atrocious crimes, may be traced to its deficiency in regard to most of the safeguards guaranteed by even an ordinary type of civic organisation. Well, thanks to the provisions of Mr. Forster's Elementary Education Act, and especially to the improvement of such of them as are applicable to London, which was successfully pressed upon the Vice-President by Mr. M'Cullagh Torrens, the member for Finsbury, a pattern is now before the metropolitan public of the kind of assembly that a municipal council might be made; and, as everybody knows that example is more efficacious to persuade than precept, so, we trust, everybody will discern the possibility and the desirableness of overcoming the obstacles standing in the way of the municipal management of the most important capital in Europe.

Even those candidatures for seats at the London School Board which proved unsuccessful—for we need say nothing of those of them which were conducted to triumph—can scarcely have exposed gentleman or lady to contact with anything calculated to sully honour, to offend delicacy, or to pain the acutest sensibilities of conscience. There was no uproarious nomination-day, with its crowds, its noise, its boisterous excitement, its faction fights, and its utter unmeaningness in respect of the final result. There were

public meetings, but they were, for the most part, attended by intelligent and tolerant hearers. There were advertised addresses. There was occasional canvassing, and, here and there, the dead walls of London were covered with mild placards. The electioneering may have entailed considerable work on committees, and some expense—but nothing from which the purest-minded or the cleanest-handed candidate need have shrunk. And, as to the polling, one could hardly realise the calm regularity of the process. It was sober; it was business-like; it was, perchance, dull; but nobody can charge it with having proceeded under intimidation. A few mistakes necessarily incident to a first experiment were made; but, on the whole, and altogether irrespective of the results in which they issued, the London School Board elections of the 29th ult. were in most respects a pleasing contrast to the great majority of elections, municipal or Parliamentary.

We have now, we may say, called into being a germ of, perhaps, the most important and enduring of all social revolutions—an educated people. In what precise form the germ will become developed it is not easy to foretell. It comprehends various forces, some of them apparently antagonistic. The essential life of it, however, is the education of every child in the metropolitan districts; and it may be hoped this will assimilate to itself widely different motives of action. The movement can hardly pass into the hands of so highly-qualified a body as the School Board without detaching itself from much that has been controversial and even polemical in its character. As time passes on, and experience in the working of the Act is gained, it will not be unreasonable to expect that sectarian angularities will be rubbed away, and that the cultivation of the mental and moral capabilities of the children educated under the board's auspices will be looked upon as paramount over every narrower object. The grand enterprise has been successfully launched. We cannot refrain from expressing our hope—almost amounting to belief—that a few years will suffice to disclose to us results which will compel us to look back on Tuesday last as the initiation of one of the most beneficent undertakings which have characterised the times in which we live.

FOREIGN AND COLONIAL NEWS.

ITALY.

The Duchess d'Aosta, wife of the King-elect of Spain, gave birth to a son, on Thursday week, at Turin.

All the Ministers are re-elected. A large majority of the new Parliament are favourable to the Government.

General Menabrea has been appointed to succeed Signor Minghetti as Italian Ambassador at Vienna.

Many of the Florentine newspapers have been sequestered for having published the Papal Encyclical.

BELGIUM.

In the Chamber of Representatives a motion to take into consideration a proposition for revising articles 47, 53, and 56 of the Constitution has been rejected by 73 votes against 23.

GERMANY.

The North-German Parliament was opened at Berlin, on Thursday week, with a Speech from the Throne, which is given entire on page 574. On Monday the credit demanded by the Government, of 100,000,000 thalers, to carry on the war was granted, on a third reading, by 178 ayes against 8 noes. According to the Berlin correspondent of the *Times*, a committee of English bankers has offered to take up the loan.

The negotiations for the union of Northern and Southern Germany have been completed. Bavaria has formally thrown in her lot with the new German Confederation. The convention by which she takes her place in the Bund was signed at Versailles on Wednesday week. She retains her independent military administration; but the organisation and formation of the army will be in conformity with the rules governing the Federal army. The Federal Commander-in-Chief is to inspect the Bavarian troops in times of peace, and in time of war they will have to render him implicit obedience. The convention with Wurtemberg was signed on Friday. By the military convention between Baden and the North German Confederation, which was signed on Saturday, it is settled that the Baden contingent will form a direct part of the Federal army, and consequently of the Prussian army, under the command of the King of Prussia, and will be placed under the united control of the Confederation, and consequently of the Prussian Minister of War.

AUSTRO-HUNGARY.

The Delegations have been opened at Pesth. The Austrian Delegation has appointed its bureau, and elected Herr Hopfen President, and Herr Jahlonowski Vice-President. On Saturday the Emperor received the members of the Delegations. In reply to an address from the President, his Majesty said that the importance of political affairs, in consequence of which he had called the Delegations together, had lost none of its significance. On the contrary, more recent and serious events had occurred. His Majesty hoped that the Delegations would do that which true patriotism and the inseparable interests of both divisions of the monarchy demanded.

Count Potocki has tendered to the Emperor the resignation of the whole Cis-Leithan Cabinet.

A conference of delegates of all the Slavonic races of the Austrian empire has been held. The chiefs of the Croats, Servians, Dalmatians, Montenegrins, and other inhabitants of Slavonia were present. The contingency of a war between Austria and Russia was discussed. There is a project to establish, in certain contingencies, a Slavonic empire of the South.

RUSSIA.

An Imperial decree has been issued, according to which, besides the unlimited furloughs to which the soldiers are entitled by law after ten years' service, temporary furloughs are likewise to be granted to those whose term of service expires in 1871, 1872, and 1873 respectively.

An Odessa letter, dated the 19th ult., received at Pera, reports a great concentration by Russia of troops on Bessarabia.

The Governor-General of the Russian possessions in Central Asia reports that the relations with Kokan and Bokhara are most friendly.

AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND.

The overland mail on Monday brought news from Melbourne to Oct. 11, from Sydney to the 7th, from Adelaide to the 12th, and from Auckland to Oct. 6. In Melbourne steady progress was being made with the defences of the colony. The war news from Europe had caused great excitement, and contributions were being raised for the wounded of both armies. The Galatea, under the command of the Duke of Edinburgh, which arrived at Sydney on Sept. 15, was expected to sail for the South Seas about the beginning of November. A proposition had emanated from a Royal Commission on Federal Union, appointed by the Governor of Victoria, that an Imperial Act should be obtained enabling any two or more of the Australian colonies to unite for legislative or other purposes on terms to be mutually agreed upon. It is also suggested that the colonies should be placed in a position which would enable them to declare their neutrality in the event of a war between Great Britain and another Power.

From New Zealand we learn that the Colonial Assembly had authorised the raising of a loan of half a million, for a term not exceeding four years, to be applied chiefly to public works. The Government would also have at its disposal during the current year £200,000 of the Imperial Guaranteed Loan of a million.

The Guicowar of Baroda died suddenly on Monday last. Emulhar Rao, his brother, has been proclaimed his successor.

The schooner Friend, of Gloucester, Massachusetts, has been captured, near Charlottetown, by the British steamer Plover, for violation of the fishery laws.

The Queen has appointed Mr. John Gorrie to be Puisne Judge of the Supreme Court, and Mr. Gustave Barthelemy Colin to be Procureur and Advocate-General of Mauritius.

The Quebec local government has agreed to grant 3,000,000 acres of land to companies for the construction of railways on the north shore of the St. Lawrence, from Quebec to Montreal and Ottawa.

The Roumanian Chamber was opened on Sunday. In his Speech from the Throne Prince Charles stated that the good relations existing between Roumania and the Porte and the guaranteeing Powers made it probable that a convention would soon be arranged relative to the question of consular jurisdiction. The Prince also announced that the Government were about to lay before the members several bills, and that the Budget of 1871 would show no deficit.

THE WAR.

The French and German armies round Paris, those also fronting each other towards the Loire, between Montargis and Pithiviers, north-east of Orleans, and those about Amiens, were engaged last Sunday and Monday in downright hard fighting, with results everywhere against the French. There was more fighting on Tuesday. The losses are heavy on both sides.

It appears that on Monday morning the French Army of the Loire, under General Aurelles de Paladine, which had occupied the line from Nogent-le-Rotrou to Orleans, with the German army of Prince Frederick Charles opposed to it along a line between Dreux and Auxerre, parallel to the French line, but much longer, attempted an eastward movement. It made an effort, by attacking the German positions with great force, to obtain a passage in the direction of Fontainebleau. It was met in the neighbourhood of Beaune-la-Rolande by the 10th Prussian Army Corps, which was reinforced by the 5th Infantry and 1st Cavalry Divisions. The French were repulsed with great loss in dead and wounded, and especially in prisoners. In consequence of this defeat, the French Army of the Loire has withdrawn farther to the west. The Prussian accounts say that 1000 French dead were left on the field, and there are supposed to be 4000 wounded. The number of French prisoners is nearly 1800 un wounded. The German loss was about 1000 killed and wounded. It is expected that the Germans will again occupy Orleans, and perhaps advance farther west.

The conflicts around Paris recommenced on Saturday night, or very early on Sunday morning, with a French sortie near Choisy-le-Roi, south of the Fort d'Ivry, which was repulsed by the Prussians. On Monday night a violent cannonade was opened on the Prussian works to the south and south-west, and a demonstration was made from Mont Valérien in the direction of Bezons, a village on the Seine, a little below Argenteuil. The cannonade lasted the whole night and into the following morning, when another demonstration from Mont Valérien, in the direction of St. Cloud, supported by the fire of gun-boats, took place. At the same time a sortie in some force was made on the south, apparently between L'Hay, south-west of Villejuif, and Choisy, south-east of it. It would appear, also, that, besides this attack, other sorties were made in various directions, especially against the Saxon and Wurtemberg troops, on the north-east side of Paris. The main column was received by the 6th Army Corps, supported by the Bavarians, and the French were ultimately repulsed, or retired on all points. The Prussians assert that over 1600 prisoners fell into their hands, and that their own loss was only seven officers and about one hundred men.

On Sunday, after several skirmishes, the French Army of the North, under General Faure, numbering about 30,000, came into collision with Manteuffel's army, which consisted of General Groeben's corps, with cavalry and artillery. The French occupied a position between the Celle and the Somme rivers, with their left at Villers Bretonneux, their centre at Boves, and their right at Dury. At the commencement of the fighting was favourable to them, but in the afternoon they were compelled to yield their positions at Villers Bretonneux and Boves, and fall back. At Dury they maintained their ground till the defeat of the left and centre compelled the whole army to retire to the entrenched camp south of Ayens. The Germans estimate the loss of the French at several thousands, and 1700 wounded prisoners. They also captured a standard belonging to a regiment of Mobiles, and their cavalry rode down a battalion of Marines. It is to be gathered that the French fought stoutly and long, their retreat was orderly, and they suffered a complete but not a crushing defeat. They apparently lost no guns. Amiens was only occupied next day, when abandoned by the French, who had time to issue a proclamation announcing that it had been determined that the Army of the North should retire. It has probably fallen back upon Arras.

There was an engagement at Nuits, in the Côte d'Or of Burgundy, on Wednesday morning, between the German troops there and the Franks-Tireurs of the Vosges, aided by Gardes Mobiles. The French despatches of the French claim a victory. There is no news of the doings of Garibaldi.

The fortress of Thionville, on the frontier near Metz, has at length surrendered, with several thousand French prisoners and several hundred cannon.

There was a skirmish at Etrepagny, Upper Normandy, on Wednesday, when a Prussian detachment was beaten and forced back on Gisors.

"NOTHING IN THE PAPERS."

"I fancied Braham was a prouder man than he is," said a dramatist to somebody else, at the St. James's Theatre, ages before the time when a clever American actress came to show how that pretty house could be filled. "How do you mean?" "Well, he told me just now that he felt quite proud of his pit, I counted it, and there were seventeen people." I had fancied that Philadelphia was prouder than I have just read that it is. Perhaps, being the Quaker city, it discourages vulgar pride. But I do not believe that the Hub, or the Crescent City, or the City of Magnificent Distances, or the Garden City, or the Monumental City, or any other of the American capitals would see much to be haughty about in the fact that it abounded with Dentists. I read that Philadelphia is famous for its dentists and its dental colleges, and is "quite proud" of them, and of the fact that students come from all parts of the world to learn to draw teeth there. However, no man, no city, has a right to be hard upon a neighbour's tastes. As the mystic Zummerzet song says,

If all the world were of one religion,
Every living thing would die.

I wonder whether any of the Philadelphian dentists act upon the principle said to be avowed by some of our own advertising ones, and never want to see the same patient twice.

"Steal a basket, and be prosecuted for it thirty years afterwards!" Fate, I suppose, has not decreed that doom to a man twice. But the police records this week show that she has done it once. A baker, somewhere near Euston-square, discovered a man of sixty, who, about 1840, ran away with a bread-basket. The culprit was actually brought before a magistrate. It is true that after two hearings, the evidence being incomplete, the aged offender was discharged; but the prosecutor (one Mr. Caswell) did not seem to think that justice was being done. One has read of long-enduring revenge, but it has usually been kept alive by the memory of a great wrong—something one could put into a novel. But imagine revenge living for thirty years in an old bread-basket! How ashamed we soft-hearted people, who forgive our enemies (in a lazy way) ought to be when we hear of the manly consistency of this resolute baker! I have been trying to find an historic parallel, but have failed. The vengeful noble in one of Lord Byron's plays, who opened an account with a Doge, debited him with the deaths of the accountant's father and uncle, and wrote "Paid," as the bell announced that the Doge's head had rolled down the Giants' Steps, had not given nearly so long a credit.

Canon Danell, of the Roman Catholic Church, must be a pleasant kind of priest. He said, at a meeting about School Boards, that, bad and wicked as a great number of Catholics are, "there are few so bad that they would not be shocked at their children being brought up by Protestants." It is as well that these things should be occasionally said by persons high-placed and honoured in the Church of Rome, because it is the amiable English habit to desire to dwell, if possible, in a fool's paradise, and to try to believe that the Catholic religion "has been greatly ameliorated by the march of intellect and the spirit of the age, and all that sort of thing." But imagine a Protestant clergyman (English) saying that few of our roughs but would shudder at the idea of their children being sent to a Catholic school. One thing, however. If the Catholic children of the street are henceforth sent to schools kept by people of their own faith, well and good; but, if they are still allowed to run about stealing and swearing, the Education Board will probably make small allowance for the exquisitely delicate conscience of the Catholic rough, who would rather see his child in the kennel than on the form of a school of which the master is a Protestant. The educational police has no time to waste on superstitious reprobates—they must send their offspring to school, or take the alarming consequences of their being taught A B C by people who wickedly believe the world goes round the sun.

A Marylebone ratepayer, too late to give his vote on Tuesday, "burst into tears"—that is, cried—his entire liquefaction being merely due to a trick of a ready writer's pen. He cried because he could not vote. Might I mention that, though a Marylebone ratepayer, I was not the person? I voted before twelve o'clock. One would like to ask, with Artemus Ward, "Why these weeps?" I do not wish to assume that, the hour being rather late, my brother elector had been preventing the destruction of tissue to such an extent that a small grievance magnified itself in his eyes. It was a great thing, no doubt, to elect Miss Garrett, Mr. Huxley, Mr. H. Dixon, and the other excellent persons whom we have chosen for the greatest, and richest, and most educated of all the districts; but, knowing how very strong they were, I could have "looked up with a tearless eye" had my seven votes been lost. My friend must have been very silly or very honest. The votes are taken by ballot, nobody could know whether he voted or not, and there was the Tom Sheridan and the coal-pit story to help him to a hint. Not liking to impute to him an unworthy reason for his tears, and unable to discover a good one, I must again ask, with Artemus, "Why these weeps?"

It is stated that the stipendiary magistrate of Sheffield, whose name should be mentioned with honour, Mr. Davis, announces that he will punish any pawnbroker who takes a pledge from a child. I have seen no comments on this, but they are easier to extemporise than to look for. "Easy for Mr. Davis, with pampered menials to fly at his least bidding, to cast hindrances in the way of the hard-working poor, who have their humble homes to garnish, and have no powdered footmen to dispatch on errands. Nurtured in the lap of Sybaritism, he knows not that the children of the poor man's house perform a variety of services to which the 'curled darlings' of the aristocracy would be idiotically inadequate. He would drag the wearied mother from her washtub, bid her leave her little ones to chance, and waste an hour in procuring the tiny loan which will procure the Sabbath repast"—and so on—the intelligent machine which converts sentimentalism into slip-slop is always ready when a magistrate is to be abused. But, on the whole, Mr. Davis's decision is a good one. The pawnshop is not the place for a child, even when sent by the parent; and it is most especially not a place for a child when it goes there "on its own hook," and with something which the facility of pawning has induced it to snatch from somebody else's hook. As the law happens to be with the magistrate, I trust that he will enforce it.

Mr. Freeman (and no man has better right to speak about the English language) wants to know why the printers will not allow him to use the Biblical words which he puts into his copy; for instance, "jeopard," which gets turned into "jeopardise," and "graff," which becomes "graft." I can only tell him that he must read his own proofs and append to them a desire that they are to stand as passed by him. The printers

have nothing to do with the matter beyond "setting up" the copy, and their composition is then handed to a member of a class from whom I have received for a quarter of a century and more so much good service that I should be abominably ungrateful not to acknowledge it on all fit occasions. The "reader" takes charge of the printed matter, corrects it according to his lights, it is revised, and either the author or the editor next receives it. The editor is not called upon to trouble himself with small matters. If the author does not see his work, it will go forth with the "reader's" corrections. Nine out of ten of these will be greatly to the author's gain, the tenth will make him "throw bottles." For the reader knows nothing of your worship's archaic whims, and reduces you to the ordinary Philistine and accepted English. Mr. Freeman knows this as well as I do; but many folk have the dimmest ideas of journalistic arrangements, or they would not inclose stamps to an editor, and desire him to forward by return of post some old number of his excellent newspaper.

THE SCHOOL BOARD ELECTIONS.

The elections, in each of the ten divisions of the Metropolitan district, of a proportionate number of members of the London School Board, formed under the Elementary Education Act of last Session, took place on Tuesday. The entire board consists of forty-nine members: the city of London, within the ancient municipal boundaries, has four of these to represent its population; the city of Westminster has five; the borough of Marylebone, including the parish of St. Pancras, has seven; the borough of Finsbury has six; the boroughs of Hackney, Tower Hamlets, and Lambeth, have each five; the boroughs of Southwark, Chelsea, and Greenwich, have each four: making a total of forty-nine. Every ratepayer had a right to vote in these elections, and might either give one vote to each of the full number of candidates to be chosen for his division, or might cumulate several or all of his votes upon one candidate; so that a minority of electors had a chance of getting at least one representative, by reserving some of their votes to be clubbed in favour of a candidate not likely to be chosen by the majority of electors. Women, as well as men, could give their votes, if householders or ratepayers, or could be elected members of the board; but they must, of course, be either spinsters or widows, not married women. The voting was openly performed in the city of London, but secret voting was used in all the other divisions of the metropolitan district. Each voter, in these latter instances, had to go to one of the polling-places and to receive a voting-paper printed with the names of the candidates proposed; he was to record upon this paper for whom he chose to vote, but not to sign the paper with his own name. The method adopted in the City was different, as the elector there had to present his voting-paper and get his vote recorded by the polling-clerk; whereas in Westminster and in the outer boroughs he had only to drop it into a ballot-box. There were nearly three hundred polling-places altogether throughout the whole of London, open from eight o'clock in the morning till eight in the evening. The business was conducted in good order and without excitement, though the number of persons actually voting was quite as great as it usually is at a contested election of members of Parliament. The multiplication of polling-places necessarily tended to prevent the gathering of large crowds anywhere; and, except for the presence of a few men with placards bearing the name and pretensions of candidates, three or four loungers, and a couple of policemen at certain doors, there was not much to indicate that an important duty was being performed by the ratepayers. Within the rooms selected for polling everything went on quietly and gradually, in most instances only a few persons being present at a time. That there was no indifference in regard to voting was indicated by the fact that numbers of persons came into all the polling-places as soon as the doors were opened at eight o'clock. The arrangements for conducting the elections were nearly identical in every division. At a table sat a president and two inspectors, attended by a rate-collector with his books, and each voter had to identify himself or herself and his right to the suffrage before the voting-paper was handed to him. In a quiet part of each room writing-places, exactly on the plan adopted in the telegraph-offices, in each of which one person could write conveniently, were fitted up, and thither each individual elector retired and indicated the names of the candidate of his or her choice. In another part of the room was the ballot-box, into which they dropped the voting-paper, folded. Each voting-paper, as furnished to the voter, showed a number of blank spaces, which, occurring in a line with the names and descriptions of the candidates, formed a blank column, headed with the brief intimation, "Number of votes (if any) given to each candidate, must be entered opposite his name;" and at the foot of the paper was given the following note:—"The voter has five (or so many) votes, all or some of which he may distribute among the candidates as he pleases. If anything but the number of votes given is written on this paper, or if any other paper than this is used, the votes are not counted." All that the voter had to do, therefore, was to place against the name or names which he had determined on supporting the number of votes up to five, or whatever might be the allowance for his division, that he desired to give.

It may well be supposed that much note was taken by the bystanders of the presence of female voters, who appeared pretty frequently at some of the polling-places, and who experienced, we believe, not the slightest difficulty or annoyance in the exercise of their legal right. Our Artist, Mr. Barnard, in his imaginary sketch of two or three gentlemen calling upon a lady of independent position to canvass her vote for the candidates they desire to see returned upon this occasion, has depicted a scene of social perplexity which is likely enough to have been enacted in many private houses during the last few weeks; and we know that many ladies have refrained from using their electoral privilege, while others, on the contrary, have not merely voted, but have actively canvassed in their neighbourhoods for the sake of the interest they felt in promoting schools for the poor. It will be observed that, in London, three ladies of distinction, who have long been known to the world for their efforts in literary, philanthropic, educational, or medical undertakings—namely, Mrs. Grey, Miss Garrett, and Miss Emily Davies—are elected members of the board by immense numbers of votes; while Manchester has also chosen one lady, Miss Becker, who was more especially identified with the questionable notion that her sex ought to be admitted to all professions and political powers equally with men. It is perfectly understood, however, among the supporters of the ladies elected in London that the present example is not to be regarded as a precedent for the practical assertion of that strange doctrine. The School Board is not a local Parliament, but a small select committee of business, whose deliberations may probably be conducted in privacy, and under whose charge will be the provision of teaching for girls and infants as well as for boys, the appointment and superintendence of schoolmistresses, and other details of management which experienced ladies can best understand. Miss Burdett Coutts had, nevertheless, declined

the request to let herself be nominated for the Tower Hamlets; and expressed her opinion that women could not usefully serve as members of the Metropolitan Board, while she suggested the formation of ladies' sub-committees to assist the Board in the consideration of matters belonging to the girls' schools. She seems to have retained, as was natural, from the tremendous electioneering experiences of her father, Sir Francis Burdett, in Westminster before the Reform Act, a most uncomfortable impression of the rudeness and violence of public contests for the popular suffrage.

There were about a hundred and fifty candidates in London for the forty-nine seats at the board. The following is a list of those who are elected:—For the city of London—the Rev. W. Rogers, Mr. Alderman Cotton, Mr. S. Morley, M.P., and Mr. W. S. Gover. For the city of Westminster, Mr. W. H. Smith, M.P., Lord Sandon, the Rev. Dr. Alfred Barry (Head Master of King's College School), Mr. C. E. Mudie, and the Rev. J. H. Rigg; Lord Howard of Glossop stood next on the poll. For Marylebone—Miss Elizabeth Garrett, M.D., Professor Huxley; the Rev. Prebendary Thorold, Vicar of St. Pancras; the Rev. Dr. Angus (Baptist College), Mr. E. J. Hutchins (Roman Catholic), Mr. Hepworth Dixon, and Mr. James Watson. For Hackney—Mr. C. Reed, M.P., Mr. W. Green, Mr. T. B. Smithies, Mr. J. H. Crossman, and the Rev. J. A. Picton. For the Tower Hamlets—Messrs. E. H. Currie, T. Scrutton, E. N. Buxton, W. Pearce, and A. Langdale (the last a Roman Catholic). For Lambeth—Mr. J. Stiff, Mr. J. E. Tresidder, Sir T. Tilson, Mr. A. M'Arthur, and Mr. C. Few. For Finsbury—Mr. E. J. Tabrum, Mr. McCullagh Torrens, M.P., the Rev. J. Rodgers, Mr. T. C. Clarke, Sir F. Lycett, and Mr. B. Lucroft. For Southwark—The Rev. Mr. Mee (Church of England), Mr. Wallace (Roman Catholic), Mr. Lafone, and Mr. Ingle (a Wesleyan). For Chelsea—The Rev. Canon Cromwell, Lord Lawrence, Mrs. Grey, and Mr. G. N. Kiell. For Greenwich—Miss Emily Davies, the Rev. J. M. Glenie (Roman Catholic); the Rev. Dr. Miller, Vicar of Greenwich; and either Mr. John Macgregor ("Rob Roy") or the Rev. B. Waugh, an Independent minister. The largest number of votes polled for any candidate were the 47,855 given to Miss Garrett. The number of electors voting in Marylebone was 23,619, who gave 165,000 votes. All the other candidates elected throughout London, except two of much local influence, received less than 20,000 votes for each; none but Miss Garrett had so many as 30,000. In Chelsea, of 15,000 voters, about 2000 were women, who supported Mrs. Grey.

The provincial cities and large towns placed under the new Act have elected their respective school boards during the last few days. At Liverpool and at Bradford there was no contest, the leaders of different religious parties, and others, having met and agreed to nominate a proportionate number of candidates for each interest, enjoying the confidence of its adherents. The first contested election was in Manchester. Miss Lydia Becker secured one of the seats, and on the board there are six Churchmen, two Wesleyans, two Roman Catholics, one Presbyterian, and two Secularists. The number of electors who exercised the franchise was 26,513 (about one third of the whole constituency); and for Miss Becker 15,249 votes were recorded. She stood ninth on the list. The Roman Catholics were at the top of the poll, the Secularists at the bottom. There were thirty-four candidates at Leeds, and fifteen to be elected; the board is constituted as follows:—Five lay members of the Church of England, one Church of England clergyman, three Wesleyans, two Roman Catholics, one Independent, one Primitive Methodist, one Free Methodist, and one Unitarian. Mr. Jowitt (Independent) headed the poll with nearly 50,000 votes. The lady candidate (Miss Wilson) did not succeed, having polled only 5122. The elections for Birmingham and Nottingham, Sheffield, Wolverhampton, Stockton-on-Tees, Middlesborough, Rochdale, and Aberystwyth have passed off well. The members elected belong to the different religious communions in pretty fair proportion; at Sheffield a Roman Catholic was at the head of the poll. Great interest was everywhere shown in the matter.

The Queen has appointed Mr. John Guthrie Smith to be Sheriff of the shires of Aberdeen and Kincardine.

The Licensed Victuallers' Guardian states that the body which it represents have appointed Mr. Alfred Bates Richards to succeed Mr. James Grant as editor of the *Morning Advertiser*. There were eighty-one candidates.

The Lord Lieutenant of Ireland and Countess Spencer visited Carlow on Monday for the first time. They were warmly received. His Excellency sanctioned an outlay of £4000 on the asylum.

A butcher of Chipping Norton was, on Wednesday, sentenced to two months' imprisonment for having sent diseased meat to the London market. A butcher of Weston, in Lincolnshire, pleaded guilty to a similar offence, and was fined £10.

The official inspection of the Oxford University Rifle Corps took place on Monday. At its conclusion, Colonel Daubeny, the inspecting officer, complimented the corps upon the way in which the work had been done.

The total receipts into the National Exchequer from April 1 to November 26 were £39,305,368, against £43,912,187 in the corresponding period of last year. The expenditure was £42,957,616, against £44,637,120 of last year. The balance in the Bank of England on the 26th ult. was £2,239,176.

Last week Lord William Lennox gave a lecture on Wellington, at the Corn Exchange, Cheltenham, in aid of the funds of the Atheneum Institute. Lord William repeated the lecture at Nuneaton, Dudley, and Stroud, on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday.

Twenty artisans, employed in the Government small-arms factory at Enfield, have left England for Constantinople. They have been engaged by the Turkish Government for two years, to take charge of the conversion and manufacture of rifles on the Snider principle.

A public dinner was given to Mr. Bass, the senior M.P. for Derby, in that town, on Saturday night, for the purpose of presenting his portrait to the Mayor and Corporation. The presentation was made in commemoration of Mr. Bass's long connection with the town, and his beneficent gifts of a public playground and swimming-baths to the inhabitants.

The new Protestant cathedral was consecrated at Cork, on Wednesday, with an imposing ceremony. The Lord Primate, the Archbishop of Dublin, and the Bishops of Peterborough, Derry, Tuam, Limerick, Down, Meath, and Cork were present. The Archbishop of Dublin preached in the morning and the Bishop of Peterborough in the evening.

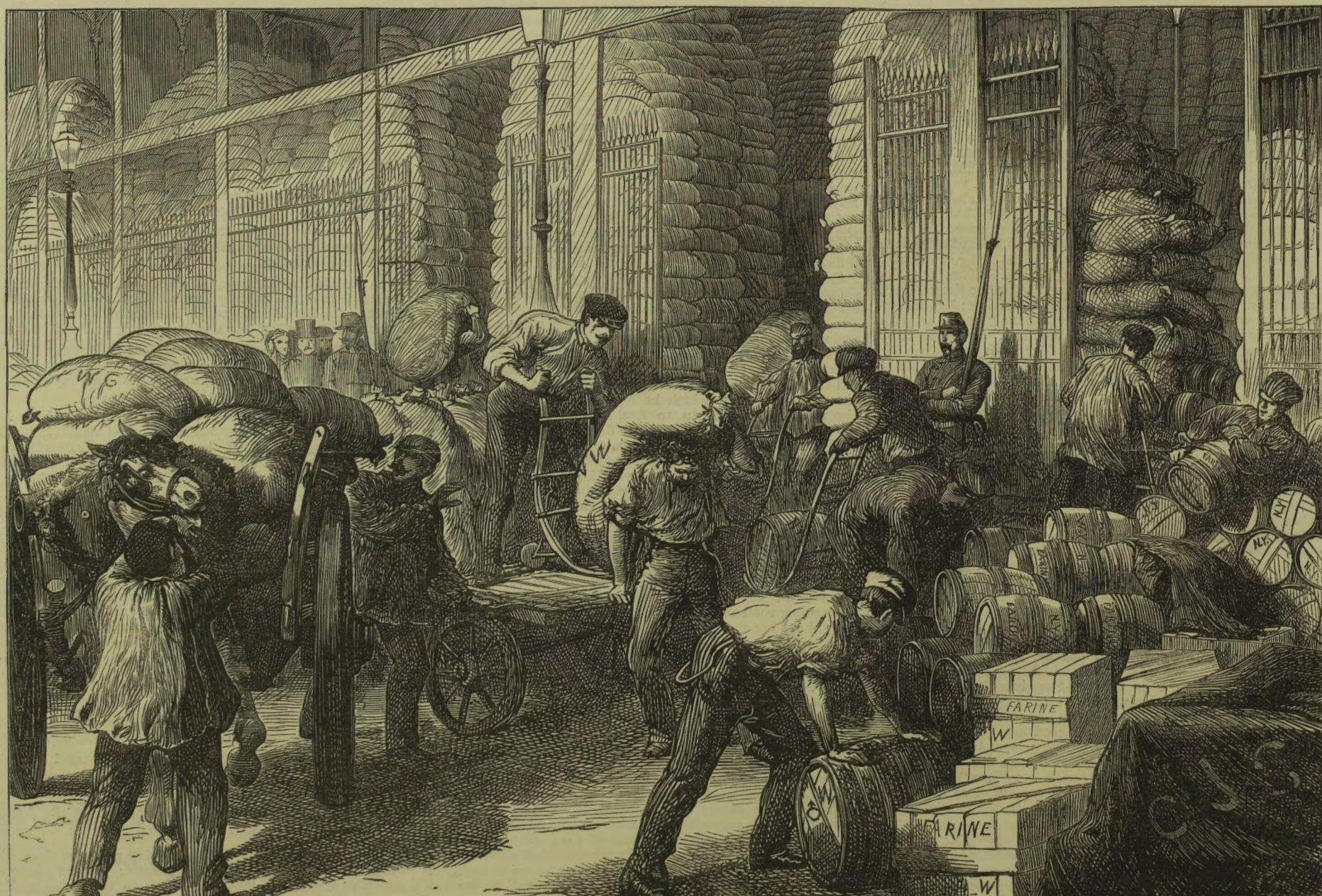
Early in the morning of yesterday week the shop of Mr. James Scott, jeweller and watchmaker, Market-place, Hull, was broken into and robbed of stock to the value of £2000, consisting of eighty watches and other articles. Entrance was effected through an empty shop next door, and a hole was made through the wall of Mr. Scott's shop. The burglars left several implements behind, and a large quantity of stock.



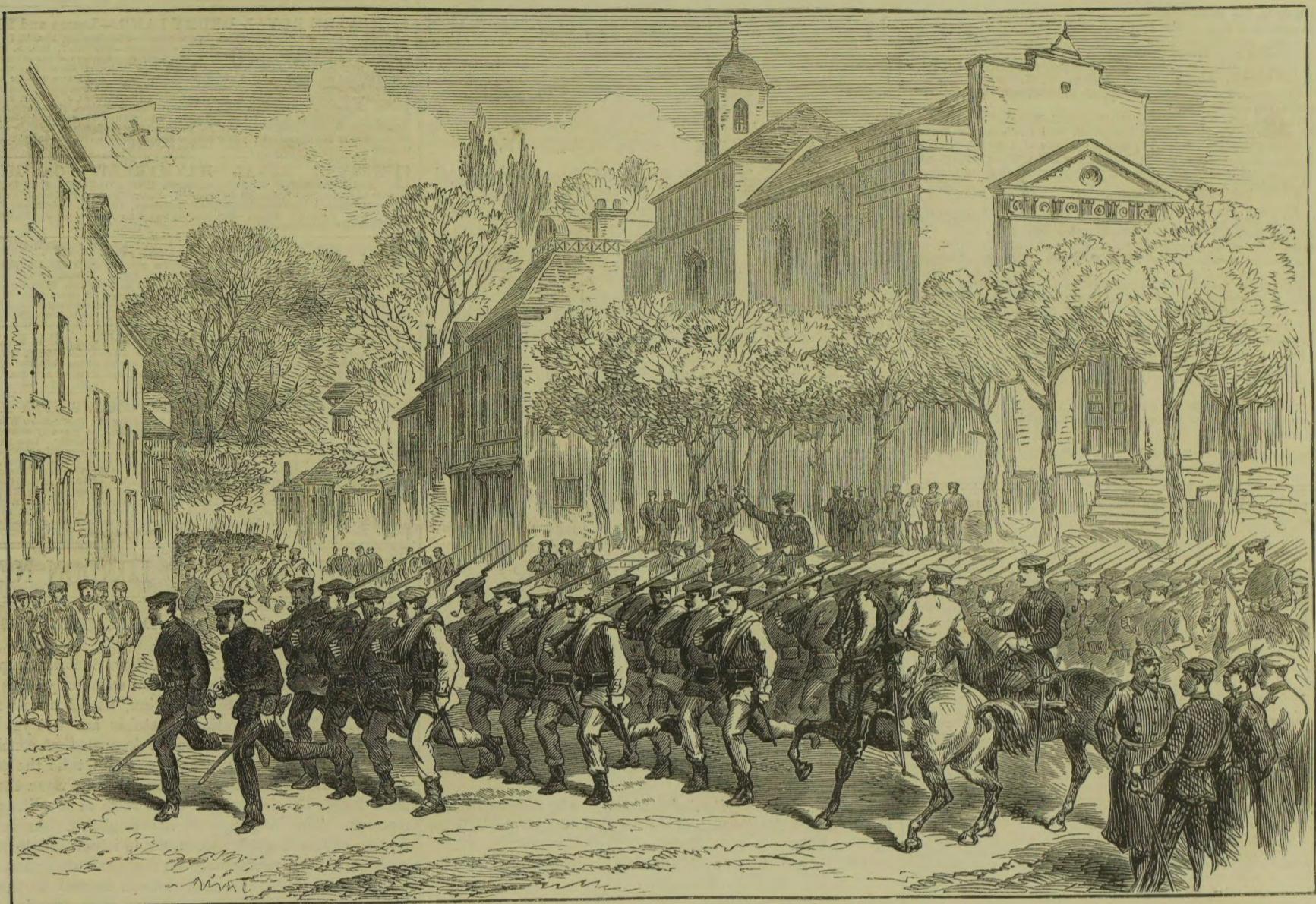
PREPARING FOR WINTER, BOIS DE FAUSSES REPOSES, VERSAILLES.



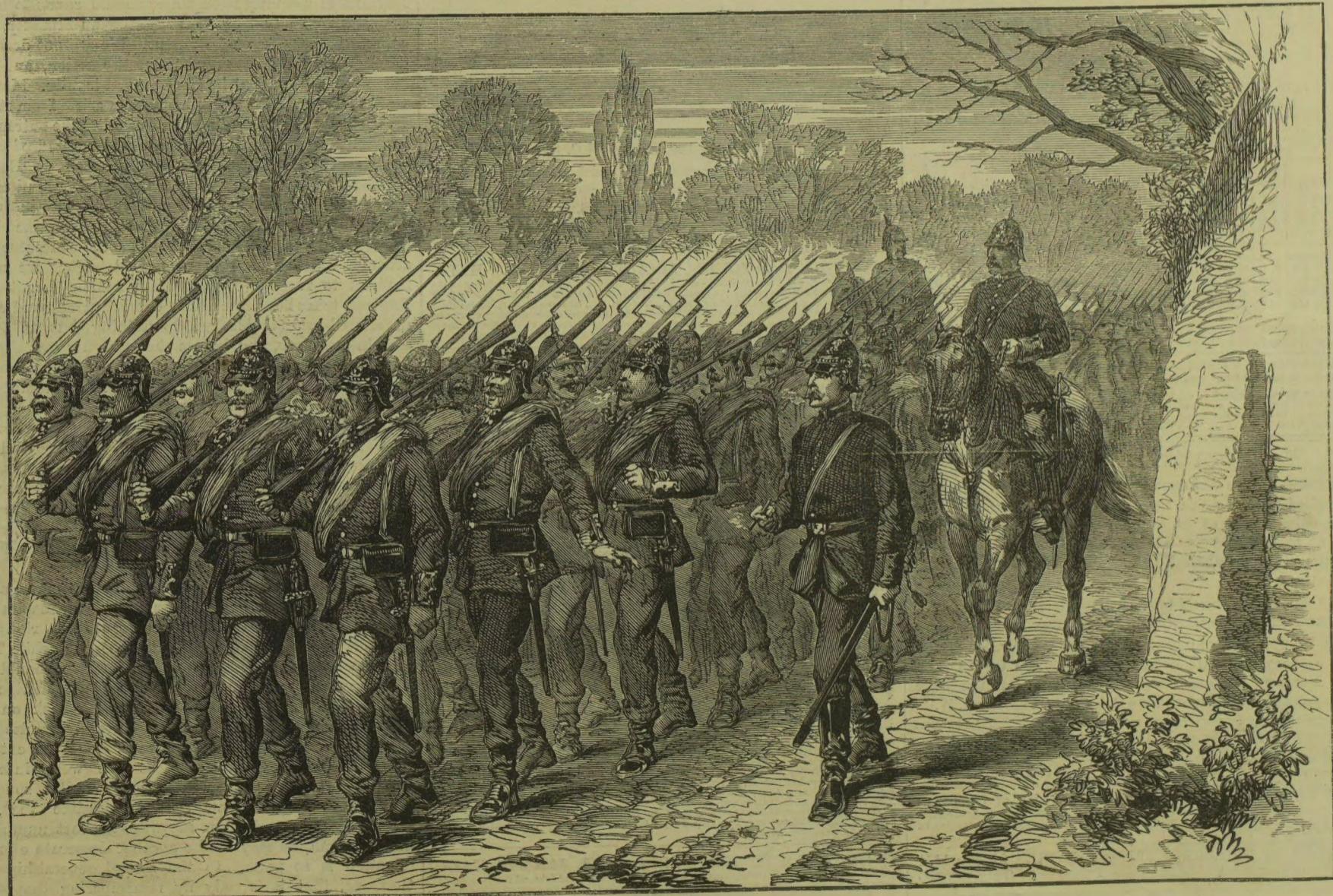
REFRESHMENT STALLS OUTSIDE THE MAIRIE, VERSAILLES: THE FIRST SNOW.



INSIDE PARIS: FLOUR STORES IN THE HALLES CENTRALES (SKETCH BY BALLOON POST).



THE SIEGE OF PARIS: PRUSSIAN TROOPS AT VILLE D'AVRAY HASTENING TO RESIST A SORTIE.



THE SIEGE OF PARIS THE 24TH PRUSSIAN REGIMENT RETURNING FROM THE FIGHT.

BIRTHS.

At Bishopton, Brisbane, the wife of the Lord Bishop of Brisbane, of a daughter.

On June 18, at Valparaiso, Chili, the wife of Robert Russell Bryce Williams, Esq., of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

On the 24th ult., at Wisbech, by the Rev. John Scott, the Vicar, William Edward, second son of Edward Yalden Cooper, Esq., of Wincanton, Somersetshire, to Caroline, youngest daughter of William Goddard Jackson, Esq., of Wisbech and Duddington, Northamptonshire.

On Oct. 26, at the British Consulate, Rio de Janeiro, and afterwards at the British Chapel, William, eldest son of the late Rev. W. K. Tatam, B.D., incumbent of Oswaldtwistle, Lancashire, to Sophia Harriet, second daughter of John Freeland, Esq., of that city.

On Sept. 20, at Adelaide, South Australia, Edward T. Christie, Esq., D.A.C.G., second son of Major W. H. Christie, late H. M. 80th Regiment, to Emma, second daughter of Samuel Tomkinson, Esq., J.P., Bank of Australasia.

On the 30th ult., at Thornes, by the Rev. Henry Jones, Vicar, John Leach, of Wisbech, Cambridgeshire, to Jane, third daughter of Thomas Lake, of Thorne, Wakefield. No cards.

DEATHS.

On the 25th ult., at Newbridge Barracks, in the county of Kildare, Captain Rigby Wason, of the King's Dragoon Guards, aged 26 years.

On the 6th ult., at Savannah, U.S.A., after a very short illness, Frank William, only child of Francis and Ellen Margaret Muir, aged 17 months and 8 days.

On the 24th ult., at Inverness, Jane Sarah Eliza, eldest daughter of the late Colonel Chavel, of Walton Bridge House, Middlesex, and niece of the late Rev. A. R. Chauvel, Rector of Great Stanmore, Middlesex, aged 84 years.

On Sept. 27, at Melbourne, Victoria, John, the eldest son of John and Elisabeth Batters, of Hill House, Stanstead, Herts, aged 22.

On the 30th ult., at his county residence, 1, Park-terrace, Hanwell, Amelia Gould, the wife of Thomas C. Vidler, L.D.S., &c., 22, Eastbourne-terrace, Hyde Park, eldest daughter of Dr. George Bennell, Sydney, N.S. Wales, in her 30th year.

On the 22nd ult., at Pan, Bas Pyrenees, General Alexis M. Dupuy, of Port-au-Prince and Paris, formerly Minister from the Republic of Hayti at the Court of St. James's.

* * * The charge for the insertion of Births, Marriages, and Deaths is Five Shillings for each announcement.

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK ENDING DECEMBER 10.

SUNDAY, Dec. 4.—Second Sunday in Advent. Divine Service: St. Paul's Cathedral, 10.30 a.m., the Rev. Wm. H. Milman, M.A., Rector of St. Augustine's and St. Faith's, Old Change; 3.15 p.m., the Rev. Canon Robert Gregory, M.A., Rector of St. Mary-the-Less, Lambeth. Chapels Royal, St. James's, morning, the Rev. Francis Garden, M.A., the Sub-Dean; Savoy, 11.30, the Rev. Henry White, M.A.; 7.0, the Rev. F. K. Harford, M.A., Priest in Ordinary to her Majesty.

MONDAY, 5.—Mr. Peabody's additional gift of £100,000 to the London poor, 1868. Meetings: Royal Institution (general), 2 p.m.; London Institution Lecture, 4 p.m. (Professor Odling on Chemical Action); Entomological Society, 7 p.m.; Royal Institute of British Architects, 8 p.m.; Medical Society, 8 p.m.; Royal Academy Lecture, 8 p.m. (Mr. Partridge on Anatomy); Society of Arts, Cantor Lecture, 8 p.m. (Mr. Barff on Artists' Colours).

TUESDAY, 6.—St. Nicholas, Bishop of Myra. The opera-house, Haymarket, burnt, 1867. Meetings: Civil Engineers' Institution, 8 p.m.; Anthropological Society, 8 p.m.; Zoological Society, 9 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, 7.—St. Ambrose, Bishop of Milan. New Italian Constitution proclaimed at Turin, 1859. Meetings: Royal Horticultural Society, fruit and floral, 11 a.m.; scientific, 1.30; general, 3 p.m.; Geological and Pharmaceutical Societies, 8 p.m.; Society of Arts, 8 p.m. (Mr. H. M. Jenkins on American Assisted Dairies); Royal School of Mines Lecture, 8 p.m. (Professor Frankland on Chemistry).

THURSDAY, 8.—Opening of the twenty-first general council at Rome, 1869. Full moon, 2.29, a.m. Meetings: Society of Antiquaries, 8.30 p.m.; Royal Society, 8.30 p.m.; Mathematical Society, 8 p.m.; London Institution Lecture, 7.30 p.m. (Mr. Mattieu Williams on Count Rumford); Royal Society Club, 6 p.m.; Royal Agricultural Society, noon.

FRIDAY, 9.—Sir Anthony Vandike, painter, died, 1641. Meetings: Royal Astronomical Society, 8 p.m.; Quettet Microscopical Club, 8 p.m.

SATURDAY, 10.—The Royal Academy founded, Sir Joshua Reynolds first president, 1768; Accession of Leopold II, King of the Belgians, 1865. Meetings: Royal Botanic Society, 3.45 p.m.; Royal Horticultural Society (promenade), 2 p.m.

TIMES OF HIGH WATER AT LONDON BRIDGE

FOR THE WEEK ENDING DECEMBER 10.

Sunday. | Monday. | Tuesday. | Wednesday. | Thursday. | Friday. | Saturday.
M. | A. | M. | A.
h m | h m | h m | h m | h m | h m | h m | h m | h m | h m | h m | h m | h m | h m
11.51 | 0 16 | 0 38 | 0 56 | 1 15 | 1 35 | 1 51 | 2 8 | 2 25 | 2 42 | 2 58 | 3 15 | 3 15 | 3 15

THE WEATHER.

RESULTS OF METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS AT THE KEEV OBSERVATORY OF THE BRITISH ASSOCIATION.

Lat. 51° 28' 6" N.; Long. 0° 18' 47" W.; Height above Sea, 34 feet.

DAY.	DAILY MEANS OF		THERMOM.	WIND.		General Direction.	Movement in 24 hours, read at 10 A.M. next morning.	Rain in 24 hours, read at 10 A.M. next morning.
	Barometer Corrected.	Temperature of the Air.		Dew Point.	Relative Humidity.	Amount of Cloud.		
23	Inches	°	°	°	0-10	°	Miles.	In.
24	29.814	470	40.6	83	5	42.3	520	.020
25	29.840	51.5	46.2	83	5	41.4	557	.220
26	29.574	50.2	45.4	85	4	47.9	53.7	0.000
27	29.869	47.8	49.9	97	5	39.6	54.9	0.000
28	30.304	43.1	40.9	92	10	35.0	46.0	0.000
29	30.271	44.7	37.8	79	10	41.1	47.4	0.000

The following are the readings of the meteorological instruments for the above days, in order, at ten a.m.:

Barometer (in inches) corrected :: 29.213 29.303 29.456 29.851 30.225 30.328 30.274
Temperature of Air :: 50.49 54.30 50.90 49.20 46.50 43.90 45.10
Temperature of Evaporation :: 46.00 51.50 49.00 49.30 45.20 43.10
Direction of Wind :: WSW SW. SSE. ESE. ENE.

NEW POSTAL TARIFF.

Subscribers to the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS can now be supplied by post, direct from the Office, 198, Strand, W.C., at the reduced rate of £1 5s. 8d. per annum, or 6s. 5d. per quarter, to be paid in advance. This subscription will cover the ordinary Double Numbers and the special Christmas Supplements.

• Post-Office Orders should be made payable to the Publisher.

The ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS can be obtained at any of the Railway Bookstalls in England and Wales for 5d. each single Number. Notice of any difficulty in buying the paper at this price should be sent to the Publisher, 198, Strand, W.C.

THE SOCIETY OF PAINTERS IN WATER COLOURS. The NINTH ANNUAL WINTER EXHIBITION OF SKETCHES AND STUDIES by the MEMBERS is now OPEN at their Gallery, 5, Pall-mall East. Ten till Five. Admission 1s. ALFRED D. FRIPP, Secretary.

THE COAST OF NORWAY. An Exhibition of Drawings and Paintings, by ELIJAH WALTON, including "The Midnight Sun"—PALL-MALL GALLERY, 48, Pall-mall (Mr. W. M. Thompson's). Admission, with Catalogue, 1s. Ten till Dusk.

SOCIETY OF FEMALE ARTISTS.—WORKS for the 1871 EXHIBITION to be SENT in JAN. 9 and 10. Prospectivees to be had of the Porter, at the Gallery, 9, Conduit-street; or of Mr. Jenning, 16, Duke-street, Manchester-square.

DORÉ GALLERY.—GUSTAVE DORÉ, 35, New Bond-street.—EXHIBITION of PICTURES, including CHRISTIAN MARTYRS, MONASTERY, FRANCESCA DE RIMINI, TITANIA, &c., at the New Gallery. Open Ten to Six. Gas at Dusk. Admission, 1s.

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS

CHRISTMAS DOUBLE NUMBER
OF THE
ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS
FOR 1870,

TO BE ISSUED ON DECEMBER 24,

WILL CONSIST OF

A COLOURED ILLUSTRATION,

"Ladybird, Ladybird, Fly Away Home!"

FROM A PAINTING BY MRS. ANDERSON,

AND

FORTY PAGES OF ENGRAVINGS AND LITERATURE.

ILLUSTRATIONS.

A Vision of the Departing Year. By E. J. Poynter, A.R.A.
(Two pages.)

Gathering for the Pantomime. By Alfred Crowquill.

"A Merry Christmas to You!" by A. Hunt.

Christmas Morning in the Olden Time. By G. H. Boughton.

The Family Pew. By E. Hughes.

Lowther Arcade at Christmas Time. By C. J. Staniland.

Christmas in Australia. Two Illustrations. By W. Ralston.

A Christmas Visitor. By H. Petherick.

The Half Hour before Dinner. By F. Barnard.

The British Navy—The Past. By S. P. Jackson.

The British Navy—The Present. By E. Weedon.

Carving Crosses for Pilgrims at Bethlehem. By W. J. Webb.

French Shepherds going to Christmas Midnight Mass. By J. C. Thom.

Two Illustrations of the Tale, "The Death-Ship of Trescat Cove." By F. Barnard.

Among the NEWS ENGRAVINGS will be ILLUSTRATIONS of the PRIZE CATTLE and SHEEP of the SMITHFIELD CLUB SHOW.

PROSE AND VERSE.

The Death-Ship of Trescat Cove. A Tale. By E. Lynn Linton.

"Ladybird, Ladybird, Fly Away Home!" By Shirley Brooks.

Christmas on the Australian Gold-Fields. Sailor Bob's Yarn.

A Tale. By R. H. Horne.

The Miller and His Man. A Little Opéra Bouffe for Christmas Time. By F. C. Burnand.

A Dream of Chancifancia.

Past and Present of the British Navy.

A Dozen Charades in Verse.

Sketches and Essays.

Price of the Christmas Double Number—consisting of the Coloured Picture and Two Sheets and a Half of Illustrations, Literary Articles, and News—One Shilling.

NOTICE TO ADVERTISERS.—Advertisements for the Christmas Number must be sent in before six o'clock on MONDAY Evening, Dec. 19. The lowest charge for an Advertisement—not exceeding four lines (about thirty words)—in the Christmas Number will be Twelve Shillings; and for every additional line (averaging ten words) the charge will be Three Shillings.

Office—198, Strand, W.C.

WINTER EXHIBITION of PAINTINGS in WATER COLOURS, at the NEW BRITISH INSTITUTION, 39, Old Bond-street, NOW OPEN; including also the eight works by H.R.H. the Crown Princess of Prussia and H.R.H. Princess Louise, from the War Relief Exhibition. T. J. GULLICK, Hon. Sec.

SACRED HARMONIC SOCIETY, EXETER HALL. Conductor, Sir Michael Costa.—On FRIDAY WEEK DEC. 19, in celebration of the Centenary of the Birth of the Composer, BEETHOVEN'S MASS IN G and MOUNT OF OLIVES will be performed. Tickets, 3s., 5s., and 10s. 6d., now ready, at 6, Exeter Hall. Note.—The position of the few stalls not taken up by last year's subscribers may now be seen, and subscriptions at once received for them, entitling to double tickets for the above performance. Christmas performances of "Messiah," Dec. 23 and 30. Tickets ready.

SATURDAY POPULAR CONCERTS, ST. JAMES'S HALL, DEC. 10 and 17, to commence each day at Three o'clock. On Saturday, Dec. 10, Madame Arabella Goddard, M.M. Strauss, L. Ricci, Zerbini, and Piatti will appear. Vocalist, Herr Stockhausen. Sofa Stalls, 5s.; Balcony, 3s.; Admission, 1s. Programmes and Tickets at Chappell and Co.'s, 50, New Bond-street; Keith, Prowse, and Co., 48, Cheapside; Hay's, Royal Exchange-buildings; and at Austin's, 28, Piccadilly.

DEC. 7.—ROSSINI'S MESSE SOLENNELLE.—Mdlle. Titien, Mdlle. Albani, Mr. Sims Reeves, Signor Fancelli, Signor Foli, Mr. Henry Leslie's Choir, Pianoforte, Mr. J. G. Calicot, Harmonium, Mr. John C. Ward, Harps, Mdlle. Elise Lansen and Mdlle. Waldteufel. Conductor, Mr. Henry Leslie.

ALBONI.—Mdlle. ALBONI in Rossini's MESSE SOLENNELLE, WEDNESDAY EVENING NEXT, Dec. 7.

DEC. 7. Rossini's MESSE SOLENNELLE, ST. JAMES'S HALL, WEDNESDAY EVENING NEXT, at Eight o'clock. Mdlle. ALBONI'S re-appearance.—Sofa Stalls, 15s.; Area Stalls, 10s. 6d.; Balcony, 7s. 6d.; Unreserved Tickets, 5s., 3s., and 2s. Tickets at all Music Publishers', and Austin's Ticket Office, St. James's Hall.

CRYSTAL PALACE.—CATTLE SHOW WEEK.—Great LONDON SHOW of POULTRY and PIGEONS.—DEC. 7, 8, 9, 10. 1300 Head of Poultry, and 1000 Pigeons. £700 in Prizes. No extra charge. Other attractions also each day.

CRYSTAL PALACE.—THE WINTER GARDEN agreeably warmed daily. CATTLE SHOW WEEK (Next Week) specially attractive. Monday—Senores Gonzales and Romas, the Marvellous Mexican Athletes. Tuesday—Opera, "Fra Diavolo." Wednesday—First Day of

at such a moment. All this being known, and the sum of the news amounting to this, that north, south, and at Paris the French arm had failed, it was not unreasonable, in a campaign of startling incidents, that men should give easy credence to the rumour that the capital had surrendered.

Assuming that, in the words of Shelley—

The last hope of trampled France has failed— that is, assuming that, whether D'Aurelles be altogether routed or not, he is placed where he can render no service to Paris, and Trochu is left with a large force which issues out but to be repulsed, and portions of which now refuse, it is said, to do more than man the ramparts, and with famine palpably pressing upon the multitudes, how long is so cruelly discouraging a state of things to endure?

To hold out amid privation, with the certain knowledge, or even the reasonable hope, that relief must come sooner or later, is the course of brave men; and it has often been witnessed, and endurance has been rewarded. But for whom does Paris wait now? The armies on which she reckoned are paralysed, the iron ring has been strengthened, and her soldiers dash themselves against it in vain. Hunger rises like a grim spectre, and, once raised, that phantom will not be laid. It were almost wicked, save that what is written here will not be read in Paris, to dwell upon the hardships of the besiegers, the sickness in their cattle, their own desire to get home, and all the rest of the debilitated considerations round which tea-table politicians love to potter.

The Germans are more than powerful enough to hold their own, and to beat back any enemy who may try to break the chain which, unlike the chain in mechanics, is not "only as strong as its weakest point," for its weakest can be made its strongest at need. The noble capital has in its affliction set an example to the France it has so long dominated, and when the true story of the siege shall be told it will be seen how much more Paris has borne than is at present supposed. We can see no end to her sufferings but one, and it is now difficult to believe that to be very far off. This has been said again and again, and Paris is untaken. It is true; but at what period of the war has the struggle appeared so hopeless? What hope, indeed, is left to her? Men work "by wit, and not by witchcraft," and yet could even the magic of a name like that of Jeanne D'Arc be conceivable in these days, what could the most frenzied enthusiasm do against the material forces arrayed for the capture of Paris? We repeat that the shadows have darkened, and we sadly await the consummation of a terrible drama. It is not needful at this crisis to speak of other strange rumours which would bring back the captive of Wilhelmshöhe and the legions of captured Frenchmen to assail the Republic and re-establish the throne of Napoleon III. There are fierce seasons when the wildest ideas go almost unchallenged, and the crisis of a dreadful war is one of such seasons. It will be time enough to challenge this idea when we shall have heard that the Germans have no enemy outside Paris, and that their deadliest ally within it is hoarsely dictating terms of surrender.

THE COURT.

The Queen, with Princess Louise, Prince Leopold, and Princess Beatrice, continues at Windsor Castle.

Earl Granville had an audience of her Majesty (yesterday) Friday week.

On Saturday last Prince Arthur, attended by Lieutenant-Colonel Elphinstone, arrived at the castle from Greenwich Park. His Royal Highness returned to the Ranger's Lodge on Monday. Lady Churchill arrived at the castle.

On Sunday the Queen, Prince Arthur, Prince Leopold, and Princess Beatrice attended Divine service in the private chapel of the castle. The Rev. Thomas Rowsell officiated.

On Tuesday the Queen held a Council, at which were present Earl De Grey, the Right Hon. W. E. Gladstone, Earl Granville, Viscount Sydney, Viscount Halifax, and the Right Hon. H. A. Bruce. Mr. Helps was Clerk of the Council. Earl De Grey, the Right Hon. W. E. Gladstone, Earl Granville, and Viscount Sydney had audiences of her Majesty. Previous to the Council Marshal the Duke of Saldanha was introduced to the Queen, and presented his credentials as Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary for Portugal. The Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary for Costa Rica also presented his credentials. After the Council Mr. James Pennethorne, architect to the Board of Works, and Mr. Llewellyn Turner, late Mayor of Carnarvon, received the honour of knighthood.

On Wednesday the Queen, accompanied by Princess Beatrice, went to Chisellhurst and visited the Empress Eugénie. Her Majesty travelled by special train upon the South-Western and South-Eastern Railways to Chisellhurst station, and drove thence in a Royal carriage (which had been previously sent from Windsor) to Camden House. The Queen was warmly received by the Empress. After a visit of nearly an hour, her Majesty returned to Windsor.

The Queen, with the members of the Royal family, has taken her customary daily drives.

Earl and Countess Granville, the Marquis of Lorn, the Hon. Emma Pitt, and the Right Hon. W. E. Gladstone have been staying at the castle on a visit to her Majesty.

The Queen has entertained at dinner during the week Prince and Princess Christian, Earl and Countess Granville, the Marquis of Lorn, Lady Churchill, Sir T. M. and the Hon. Lady Biddulph, the Dean of Windsor and the Hon. Mrs. Wellesley, and the Right Hon. W. E. Gladstone.

The Duchess of Argyll visited the Queen and Princess Louise on Monday.

Her Majesty sent frequent telegraphic inquiries concerning the state of Sir Roderick Murchison after his paralytic seizure.

THE PRINCE AND PRINCESS OF WALES.

The Prince of Wales returned to Sandringham House, on Saturday last, from visiting Lord and Lady Walsingham, at Merton Hall. On Sunday the Prince and Princess attended Divine service at Sandringham church. The Rev. W. Lake

Onslow, M.A., officiated. On Monday their Royal Highnesses were present at the "meet" of the West Norfolk hounds, at Bawsey Ruins. The Prince and Princess were received by Mr. A. Hammond, master of the West Norfolk, and a numerous "field." Their Royal Highnesses have received a large circle of guests during the week, among whom were the Duke of Cambridge, Count and Countess Gleichen, the Duke and Duchess of Manchester, and the Marquis and Marchioness of Blandford. Thursday was the twenty-sixth anniversary of the birthday of the Princess. The day was observed at Windsor with the customary honours. Their Royal Highnesses gave a ball yesterday (Friday) in celebration of the auspicious occasion. The Prince, with his guests, has had good sport shooting over the Royal preserves. The Prince has been elected president of the Scottish Hospital Corporation.

PRINCESS LOUISE.

The health of Princess Louise is sufficiently restored to allow of her Royal Highness taking driving exercise. The inflammation consequent upon the sprain of the knee is allayed. The Princess was first conscious of the sprain while walking down the slope of a hill in the Highlands.

The following is the correct list of the bridesmaids chosen for the marriage of the Princess:—Lady Constance Seymour, daughter of the Marquis of Hertford; Lady Elizabeth Campbell, daughter of the Duke of Argyll; Lady Florence Lennox, daughter of the Duke of Richmond; Lady Mary Butler, daughter of the Marchioness of Ormonde; Lady Alice Fitzgerald, daughter of the Marquis of Kildare; Lady Agatha Russell, daughter of Earl Russell; Lady Grace Gordon, daughter of the Dowager Marchioness of Huntly; and Lady Florence Montagu, daughter of the Earl of Sandwich.

The Scotch servants at Balmoral and in the Queen's household have subscribed £200 to purchase a marriage present for her Royal Highness.

A notification was published in the *Gazette* of the 25th ult. announcing the names of the Marquis of Lorn to be John Douglas Sutherland Campbell.

Prince and Princess Christian of Schleswig-Holstein returned to Frogmore House, on Saturday last, from their visit to the Duke and Duchess of Sutherland.

The Duchess of Cambridge has returned to Cambridge Cottage, Kew, from Brighton.

The Princesse de Tremouille has arrived at the Clarendon Hotel.

His Excellency the North German Ambassador and Countess Bernstorff and Countess Thérèse Bernstorff have left town on a visit to the Earl and Countess of Abergavenny, at Eridge Castle, Tunbridge Wells.

The christening of the infant daughter of Major-General Sir Francis and Lady Seymour took place, on Thursday week, at the Chapel Royal, St. James's, her Majesty, represented by the Marchioness of Ely, standing as one of the sponsors. By the Queen's desire, the child was named Victoria Alberta. The other sponsors were Lady Marion Alford and the Rev. William Seymour, uncle of the child.

THE CHURCH.

PREFERMENTS AND APPOINTMENTS.

Aitken, W. H., to be Perpetual Curate of Christ Church, Everton, Liverpool. Baker, F. A.; Rector of Christ Church with St. Ewen, Bristol. Berwick, T. J.; Curate (Sole Charge) of Kingston, Isle of Wight. Borchart, Henry Jennings; Rector of Burnmarsh, Hythe, Kent. Carleton, Wm.; to the Union of Callan, Diocese of Ossory. Carpendale, W. H.; Vicar of Naseby, Northampton. Fleming, F. P.; Rector of the Episcopal Church of Laurencekirk, Kincardine. Holland, S.; Vicar of St. John's, Buoy St. Edmunds. James, Alfred; Rector of Burwarton, Salop. Meade, Charles John; Curate of St. George's, Camberwell. Pope, William John Pittfield; Rector of Godmanstone, Dorset. Sherwin, William; Rector of Dean, Cumberland. Thompson, Joseph; Rector of Bl. Norton, Norfolk. Whitechurch, J.; Curate of Melton Mowbray.

Last week the Bishop Suffragan of Nottingham consecrated a church at New Basford.

Lord Eliot has appointed the Rev. A. H. Mackonochie, of St. Alban's, Holborn, his Domestic Chaplain.

On Tuesday week the Bishop of Norwich reopened the Church of St. Peter, Southgate, in his cathedral city.

The Bishop of Gloucester and Bristol has proposed to establish in his diocese a board of foreign missions, in order to support the general cause.

The corner-stone of the new Church of St. Mary, in Tyn dall's Park, Bristol, to supersede the iron church in which the Rev. W. F. Bryant officiates, has been laid by the Bishop.

The foundation-stone of a new church (All Saints') was laid on Thursday week by the Bishop of Winchester. The site is in the rear of the railway station at Peckham Rye.

A new pulpit, consisting of carved stone base, iron pillars, and brass cornice, inlaid with precious stones, has been presented to the Church of All Saints, Lambeth, by Mr. Thomas Earp, the churchwarden.

At the sole cost of the Rector, the Rev. W. C. Hodgson, the chancel of Swithstone Church has been rebuilt, and by public subscription the nave and aisles have been restored, and the church has just been reopened.

The foundation-stone of the new chancel to the parish church was laid, on Wednesday week, by Mrs. Williams, the wife of the Rector, in the presence of the Marquis of Hertford and a large assembly of the inhabitants of Alcester.

The foundation-stone of a new church at Armley Hall, near Leeds, was laid, on Wednesday week, by the Bishop of Ripon. The building is to replace a temporary one erected under the auspices of the Leeds Church Extension Society, and will cost £3000 and £4000.

The corner-stone of St. Thomas-in-the-Moor, about to be erected to the memory of the late eminent surgeon, Mr. Edward T. Cox, and Jane, his wife, of Birmingham, was laid on Monday, by Mrs. Sands Cox, of Dosthill Hall, Tamworth. The building, Early Decorated, will be capable of holding upwards of 400 persons. The cost will be defrayed by Mr. Sands Cox.

A general meeting and election of the Friends of the Clergy Corporation was held, on Tuesday, at Willis's Rooms—Colonel Adams in the chair. Mr. Henry Bramall, secretary, read a report of the present position of the corporation, from which it appeared that there were now 108 lady pensioners on the funds. The total income from all sources for the past year, including the sale of £2000 stock, had been £8430; and after paying the pensions and grants, and repaying a loan of £1600, there remained a balance of £1607, which, with the sum of £2000 invested, leaves a balance of £3607. The election was proceeded with, the successful candidates being Mrs. H. Seaton, aged fifty-five, widow of the Rev. T. Seaton, Incumbent of St. Thomas's, Lambeth; and Miss E. Cowan, aged sixty-three, daughter of the late Rev. John Cowan.

The Bishop of Rochester, on Friday night, presided at a meeting held for the purpose of discussing the best means of providing sufficient voluntary education in the chief town of his diocese. It was stated that at least £2000 would have to be raised, and a resolution was passed in favour of that sum being subscribed, and a committee was appointed.

A meeting was held, on Thursday week, at Newport, in Monmouthshire, in favour of extending and improving the Church schools of the county, so as to avoid the necessity of rates. The Duke of Beaufort presided, and the Bishop of Llandaff was one of the speakers. £1500 was subscribed in the room, the Duke of Beaufort giving £500.

At a meeting of the finance committee of the National Society for Promoting Education in the Principles of the Established Church, held on Nov. 23, grants were made towards the erection and enlargement of schools at Holloway, St. Anne; Sittingbourne, Holy Trinity; Stratford, St. John's; Greenwich, Christ Church; Bradford, St. Michael and All Angels'; Llangollen; Birmingham, All Saints'; St. Cuthbert's; Manchester Albert Memorial Church, &c., to the amount of £3136. This sum will aid in providing additional accommodation for 8365 children.

The diocese of Gloucester and Bristol is following up its former efforts in Church education by the practical course of making large grants. A special meeting of the central committee of the Diocesan Association was held, on Thursday week, at Gloucester, in the cathedral library, for the purpose of considering the cases that had already come in. The Bishop presided. More than fifty schools received grants, in one or two cases to the amount of £250, the object of the association being to help at this particular time with an unsparing hand. The result of this prompt effort will be that (except in the cities) there will be hardly any school boards in the diocese.

The consecration of two Bishops took place, on Wednesday, in St. Paul's Cathedral, the first time within the memory of man that such a ceremony has taken place there. The gentlemen admitted to the Episcopate were the Rev. Dr. Henry Cheetham, D.D., Rector of Quarndon, Derbyshire, who has been appointed to the Bishopric of Sierra Leone, vacant by the resignation of the Right Rev. Dr. Beckles; and the Rev. H. C. Huxtable, who has long been a Chaplain in the Mauritius, to the Bishopric of that diocese, vacant by the death of the Right Rev. Dr. Hatchard. In consequence of the absence from England of the Archbishop of Canterbury, a commission was directed to the Bishop of London, who was assisted by the Bishop of Lichfield and Bishop Ryan.

Lord Chelmsford, delivering yesterday week the judgment of the Judicial Committee, said that Mr. Mackonochie had been guilty of disobedience to the monition of their Lordships in respect to the elevation of the cup and paten, and prostration during the Prayer of Consecration. The sentence on Mr. Mackonochie must be one of suspension for three months from all clerical duties, such suspension to date from the Queen's confirmation of the present judgment.—The Lord Chancellor gave the judgment of the Judicial Committee in the appeal of "Jackson v. Martin," commonly known as the Ledbury scandal case. His Lordship at great length reviewed the evidence, declared that the charges of immorality against Mr. Jackson had entirely failed, and therefore reversed the decision of the Arches Court, with costs.

THE UNIVERSITIES AND PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

At Oxford, the election to the vacant scholarships at Balliol terminated, on Wednesday, in favour of the following gentlemen:—Scholars: W. Hind, Cheltenham; C. Gare, Harrow. Exhibitioners: T. Raleigh, Edinburgh Academy; F. Y. Simpson, Manchester School; C. M. Macaulay, Eton College. Brackenbury Scholar: E. Needham, Derby School. Mathematical Scholar: J. N. Russell, Balliol College. Highly distinguished: A. L. Smith, Balliol; and A. R. Chier, Clifton College.

At Cambridge, H. T. Norton, B.A., Seventeenth Wrangler, 1869, has been elected to a Macmahon Law Studentship at St. John's; and Frederick Watson, B.A., Twelfth Wrangler, 1868, First Class in Theology, 1869, and Hulman and Carus Prizeman, has been elected to Nadin's Divinity Studentship at the same college.

The number of students matriculated in the University of Edinburgh in the present session, up to this date, in the various faculties is greater than in any year since 1832. Including the summer session, the number is 1732.

According to ancient custom, St. Andrew's Day was celebrated at Eton College by the annual football match between the Colleagues and Oppidans, which came off in the playing fields "under the walls." The game terminated in a victory of the Oppidans by three shies to nothing.

The Egyptian Government has applied to this country for the appointment of a naval officer at Port Said.

The death of Syud Majid, Sultan of Zanzibar, has already been announced by telegraph. The Bombay papers state that his brother, Syud Burgash, has succeeded him in the Sultanate.

At the sale of the wines of the late Miss Cust, of Carlisle, the highest price was for 1820 port, for which Sir William Gordon, of Earlston House, gave 24 gs. a dozen.

The German poet, Adolphe Boettcher, died recently at Leipsic, his native city. He was born on May 21, 1815, and at the age of twenty-one entered the University of Leipsic, devoting himself to philological pursuits and to the study of German and English poets.

A singular accident is said to have befallen a sergeant of chasseurs in the action at Chevilly. While taking aim his gun received a violent shock. He had to take it to the workshop for repairs, where it was discovered that a Prussian ball had lodged in the barrel.

M. Drouyn de Lhuys, who is in exile in Jersey, denies that he has given in his adhesion to the Provisional Government. He has had no opportunity of doing so; but no one, he says, can desire more ardently than he does that General Trochu and his colleagues may accomplish the task which they have undertaken.

The Acclimatisation Society of New Zealand have sent to England their agent, Mr. Bills, who is about to return to that colony with an immense number of English birds, including 100 sparrows, 100 robins, 100 chaffinches, 100 yellowhammers, 60 goldfinches, 60 linnets, 60 redpolls, 100 blackbirds, 85 thrushes, 120 larks, 2 pairs of blackcaps, 36 English partridges. He also takes out 18 head of red deer.

The weekly return of metropolitan pauperism gives the total number of paupers in the third week of November as 137,413, of whom 35,356 were indoor, and 102,057 outdoor paupers. This shows a decrease of 5023 compared with last year, but an increase of 37 and 5367 over 1868 and 1867 respectively. There were 1436 vagrants relieved last week, of whom 1037 were men, 309 women, and 90 children.



INSIDE PARIS: THE HORSEFLESH MARKET IN THE HALLES CENTRALES (SKETCH BY BALLOON POST).



"SUNDAY EVENING IN A SUABIAN VILLAGE," BY B. VAUTIER, OF DUSSELDORF.

FINE ARTS.

THE SOCIETY OF PAINTERS IN WATER COLOURS.

This winter display of "sketches and studies" by members of the Old Water-Colour Society supplies very slender materials for comments that have not often been made; and detailed criticism should in fairness, perhaps, be reserved in most cases for the generally more elaborate and finished performances exhibited in this gallery in the spring. Superficial amateurship may, it is true, prefer the slighter work in a mode of art which at best is apt to stop short at the stage of a "sketch" or "study," because less is suggested that is beyond narrow experience and comprehension. But it is the artist's own fault if his work does not gain in quantity of truth as well as in qualities of art commensurately with the finish he bestows. We confess we see few indications in this exhibition of the society regaining the ground it has lately lost—absolutely or relatively to other societies. A dreary sameness pervades large spaces of the walls; there is much that is commonplace, and little that is original; mannerisms recognisable at a glance are in several instances repeated in from ten to seventeen examples by one member, and not a very high level of excellence is in general attained, especially in the department of landscape.

Certain changes have, however, taken place in the constituency of the society, and have to be recorded. The places of Mr. Holland, deceased, and of Messrs. Burton and Burne Jones, resigned, are occupied by Messrs. Dobson, A.R.A., Marsh, and Deane. Mr. Holman Hunt's name also no longer appears in the catalogue. Mr. Dobson, the only member of the Academy who of late years has also belonged (as more than an honorary member) to a water-colour society, sends but a single contribution. This is a "sketch," approaching lifesize, of the head of a fair-haired girl, entitled "St. Agatha" (350), though the type of face is the same with which we have been long familiar in the artist's works. Mr. Dobson has developed in his recent practice in water colours technical qualities of tender breadth, warm colour, and atmospheric granulous texture which will probably win quite as many admirers for his drawings as have been found for his oil paintings. Mr. A. H. Marsh is a figure-painter whose style (including a slight tendency to blackness) considerably resembles that of Mr. J. D. Watson. Mr. Marsh is faithful to nature as regards character; his draughtsmanship is, with some exceptions, accurate; and his work generally is sound and unaffected. The subjects of his studies are derived from the coast; as, for instance, a pilot and boy on the look-out (50), and "Jessie" (178), a strapping buxom fisher-girl, with her pleasant face snooded in a shawl. Mr. W. W. Deane is our old acquaintance from the institute, who here appears to unusual advantage. Several of his contributions are distinguished by broad effectiveness of light and shade; very agreeable in their pearly grey tones, they yet avoid the opacity in the shadows which has been the artist's besetting fault; whilst in some instances he ventures on a key of colouring in more positive hues with very happy results. Among the former class may be named the view of picturesque old houses at "Cheddingstone, Kent" (35); among the latter the "Ponte della Pieta, Venice" (182).

Four small contributions by Mr. F. Walker on the screens are, as usual, pre-eminent for attributes of truly "high art" in little. One—the least important—called "An Amateur" (39), represents a coachman, taking the place of the gardener in a country squire's household, about to trim the kitchen garden or cut cabbages for the family dinner. Another is an exquisite etching of the design for a picture of a gipsy encampment, which was exhibited at the Academy. A third (3) represents a young boatman rowing a girl ashore to a village somewhere up the Thames. The consummate drawing and modelling of the face (flushed with exertion) and figure of youth, the children feeding the swans, and the old red hees mellowed by evening sunlight in the background, are parts as faithful to nature as they are beautiful. Still more remarkable is the illustration to Miss Thackeray's "Village on a Cliff" (385). Marvellously truthful and brilliant is the effect of light as it pours in on the modestly-spread table, on Et Père as he solemnly proposes to "drink the health of the absent" and on the very lovely figure of the surprised Céline. This is indeed a gem—a "gem" we mean in the hackneyed sense, but such as an old Greek artist, who could compress the very essence of the life within a surface of an inch or so, might have produced working in colours. Mr. Pinwell, who appears to be a few of Mr. Walker, attains something of the same exquisitely precise truthfulness in his faces; but it is imitative etude, seldom elevated by poetic and ideal feeling; and his work, as a whole, is at present less harmonious and complete. A suspicion, in fact, arises that this very promising artist may be found among the number of those whose peers are perverted by indulgence in eccentricity, or not dictated to the noblest ends. The figures in "At the Foot of the Quantocks" (103) are doubtless copied from life with utter fidelity; but why paint those slatternly women, and those squilid children? The boy on the tail of the fish-cart is the only creature pleasant to look upon. Then the red tone pervading the church on the farther side of the road, and the distance, is hardly accounted for by the condition of the sky. In "Landlord and Tenant" (272) we have a wretched interior, with the contrast of an emaciated widow surrounded by three staving children, and a burly, well-fed, uncompassionate landlord, who may be threatening a distraint—a subject too simply painful. Few, comparatively, of the members of longer standing are prominent in this exhibition. Messrs. George and Alfred Fripp and Samuel Palmer are absent altogether. Mr. Topham sends one drawing, "A Welsh Stream" (170), with graceful though rather mannered figures, and charming in its play of colour in light and shade, broken by delicious grey half-tints. Mr. Duncan has two sketches; one, "Wargrave Church—Moonrise" (121), rather unusual in effect for this painter, but beautiful in its sentiment of repose. Mr. Gilbert is in greater force. No. 29, a group of mounted cavaliers accompanying their standard-bearer in fluted armour, is a triumph of picturesque composition, spirited action, effective colouring, and dashing, though rather conventional execution. So, too, is the more elaborate composition, "A Council of Officers" (186). It is interesting, moreover, as showing that the artist, with experienced confidence in his resources, sometimes advances his figures nearly to completion before inserting a background. Perhaps the vigorous "Study of Clouds" (367) may by-and-by be transferred here. Where, however, Mr. Gilbert attempts subjects requiring greater precision and refinement of drawing and modelling to render physiognomical expression he is less successful. King Henry IV. apostrophising Sleep (40) seems merely to have a cold in his head or an attack of neuralgia. Mr. Dodgson has broken new ground in North Devon about the Lyn; and a still more novel subject for him is "The Mumbles, South Wales" (99), with its breaking sea and stormy sky; but the artist's peculiar speckled execution is more noticeable than his fanciful and sometimes imaginative suggestiveness. Mr. Birket Foster seems to us to be gaining in manliness of style as

he loses in that excruciating prettiness so fascinating to the amateur. Sound, unsophisticated rendering of nature is found in his several studies; see particularly that of the salmon leap on the Greta, at Rokeby (48), in which the light and shade and colouring of the limestone crags are admirably expressed. Mr. Brittan Willis's "Scene in Sussex, near Lewes" (67), with cattle in water, has a clear sunniness reminding one somewhat of George Fripp, and other drawings by the same have the painter's characteristic amenity of treatment not carried to excess.

A few of the younger members afford evidence of progress. Mr. Lamont sends a study of "Old Folks" (88), capital for character; several sketches equally noticeable for refinement; and a finished study of "Glasgerion" (75), wherein the loving expressions and gestures of the principal figures and the conduct of the contrasted effects of firelight and grey dawn strike us as even more happy than in the finished picture which we engraved. Mr. Bradley has studies of a white Indian sacred or Brahman cow and calf and bull; white French horses, a white goat and kid, and a white Pomeranian dog. All these manifest close observation of animal character. The "Sketch of a French Horse," numbered 225, is especially noteworthy for first-rate drawing and modelling, every joint and tendon, and muscle being perfectly "understood;" but in the large sketch of the dog (294) either the material is inadequate or the painter has not successfully adapted its use to the scale. By Mr. Powell there are numerous views of Scotch lochs, sea-pieces, and other subjects, marked by much ability and considerable originality. Mr. E. K. Johnson has been enlarging the dimensions of his studies, to a very fortunate result, in "Idle Moments" (118)—a fair maiden of the last century, in a greenish-blue dress edged with swansdown, making inscriptions with her diamond ring on the lozenge panes of an ancient casement. Mr. A. W. Hunt's sketches are valuable for their delicate observation, and interesting as showing his work before the finishing "stippling," which, while multiplying points of colour, sometimes confuses the effects. Mr. Bryce's sketches are admirable as memoranda of detail and artistic jottings of effect; but they are nothing more. The unselective character of several, and the absence of any apparent sense of pictorial requirements, prevent their being regarded in the light of studies or schemes for pictures in the proper full sense of the word. Mr. Smallfield is, as usual, very unequally represented. Some of his heads are distressingly feeble and laboured; but occasionally in landscape he is felicitous, as in the "bit" called "An Old Dove-Cot" (57), which conveys a refreshing impression of bright outdoor nature. The interior also of the "Governors' Room in Charterhouse" (129) is admirable in its rich low-toned hues; but the stumpy figure before the fine old chimneypiece is a sad eyesore. Another fairly good interior is that at Cotele (162), by Mr. Collingwood. Mr. Shields sends some large heads in black and red chalk which are more ambitious than successful. Mr. S. Read is advantageously represented in "The Giant's Portal—Cathedral of St. Stephen, Vienna" (41), and "The Screen, Glasgow Cathedral" (63). These are very able sketches; their certainty of hand, their highly picturesque and descriptive touch, evincing long-practised matured skill. A third sketch, strikingly accurate in its perspective, and which, from its more careful and elaborate execution, we should judge to be an earlier work, is that of the lofty and architecturally fine tower of Boston church, in Lincolnshire, called, with the irreverence of local familiarity, "Boston Stump" (125), serving, as it does, for a landmark over the fens and far out to sea.

Several members and associates do not leave a favourable—or, at least, not a distinct—impression on our memory. The Italian and Eastern studies by Mr. Carl Haag are comparatively unimportant; and Messrs. F. Tayler and Richardson repeat themselves according to their wont. Mr. Newton's sketches are effective, but artificial; those by Mr. T. Danby are nice in feeling, but incline to be tame and "woolly;" those by Mr. Davidson are modest and truthful, but sometimes hardly rise above the common-place; Mr. Collingwood Smith's contributions are chiefly noticeable for the wide diversity of their subjects. Mr. W. Goodall's best sketch is "The Pantheon, Rome" (150); in a figure-subject he is much below his usual level. Except, perhaps, the vigorous sketch of the "Gateway, Speke Hall" (144), Mr. Nash's contributions present no novel feature, and therefore invite no fresh comment; and the same remark would seem to apply to the sketches and studies by Messrs. E. A. Goodall (who, however, well maintains his position), G. H. Andrews, S. P. Jackson, J. J. Jenkins, C. Branwhite, and other unnamed contributors.

The Exhibition of Works of Art for the Benefit of the Distressed French Peasantry will be held, not in connection with the French Gallery, Pall-mall (owing to the smallness of the upper rooms alone available), but at the gallery of the Society of British Artists, Suffolk-street, the society having liberally lent three of their rooms for the purpose. Works intended to be presented should, if possible, be delivered in Suffolk-street to-day (Saturday). The exhibition will open on the 17th inst. Baron Gudin, and Messrs. Gerome, R. Fleury, Heilbuth, Yvon, Schreyer, and Alma-Tadema, with the Academicians E. M. Ward, Elmore, Calderon, and Frith, are among those who have promised contributions. Mr. G. E. J. Powell and other private gentlemen have already presented paintings of value.

"SUNDAY EVENING IN A SUABIAN VILLAGE."

The agreeable picture, by M. B. Vautier of Düsseldorf, which our Engraving represents, will commend itself to the feelings and tastes of those who love a romantic idyll of pastoral life. They may have dreamed of seeking it and seeing it, one day or other, in some peaceful abode of an innocent yet intelligent people, not too much oppressed with toil and cares for the occasional enjoyment of a gay and social hour—

But where to find that happiest spot below?

It is doubtful if the peasantry of any country in Europe answer this description. Dancing, indeed, is nowhere absolutely unknown; but in some places, and with some classes, it is an affair of too much ceremony, luxurious pomp, and etiquette; with others, probably, of too much rude and coarse dissipation, to resemble Goldsmith's delightful reminiscence (perhaps an imaginary one) of the French rustic party for whom his flute made such acceptable music when "the Traveller" stopped on his pedestrian journey through their fertile land.

How often have I led thy sportive choir,
With timeless pipe, beside the murmuring Loire!
Where shading elms along the margin grew,
And, freshened from the wave, the zephyr flew;
And haply, though my harsh touch, faltering still,
But madded all time, and marred the dancers' skill,
Yet would the village praise my wondrous pow'r,
And dance, forgetful of the passing hour.

Those people were the French peasantry of a hundred years ago, just before their terrible social and political Revolution. The scenes and actions which are being performed, in these very days, "beside the murmuring Loire," are drearily

unlike such as our amiable poet describes; as different as "Sweet Auburn," before the eviction of its cottiers, from the actual state of any Irish village known to have existed since "Malachi wore the collar of gold" in that long-suffering island of Erin. The country-folk have sometimes danced on Sundays and holidays, or in harvest-time gatherings of an evening; but have they often been sincerely happy, and purely, innocently merry? If so, may they soon again be enabled to throng the village green, with hearts as light and feet as nimble as in "the good old times!" We think of the present bloody conflicts of Frenchmen and Germans, "beside the murmuring Loire;" and our minds travel away quite out of France, into that other country of the Continent, whence some of the invading soldiery have marched to perform the hideous work of slaughter and havoc, at the bidding of Kings and statesmen. It is in that region of South Germany, including the vine-covered hills of the Neckar, and the pleasantest parts of Wurtemberg and Baden, which keeps the old Suabian name and nature, that the Artist has located his group of gladsome maidens seated together in waiting for their partners at the Sunday evening dance. German girls and young fellows, if not in Prussia, yet in Suabia, in Bavaria, and in Austria, can still enjoy a dance as freely as the French used to do. We only hope it will not be long before the King of Prussia allows the jolly boys of his Suabian contingent forces to go back to their fair companions on the village-green, when the labours and pastimes of peace shall be resumed both in Germany and France.

NATIONAL SPORTS.

The brilliant style in which Mr. Merry wound up the season at Warwick will surely soften the hearts of the members of the Jockey Club, and induce them to extend the racing season for a few days next year. Were its termination fixed for the week in which Nov. 22 occurs, instead of that embracing Nov. 15, everyone "would live happy ever after." On the other hand, if no alteration is made, Mr. Merry will be compelled to take a part of the week which Mr. Frail has already appropriated; and thus two important fixtures like Shrewsbury and Warwick will clash, and both are sure to suffer. Wonderfully large fields turned out for almost every event during the four days at Warwick, and there was no lack of high-class animals. Mr. Crawshaw's fine riding pulled Souvenance through in another steeplechase, in which the luckless Fan, in receipt of 6 lb., ran second. The Guy Cup brought out some very speedy animals; but Thundercloud, making use of her light weight, went to the front shortly after starting, and was never caught. Gladness ran extremely well, but Miss Dayrell has grown very slow, and Pretender seems to have lost every vestige of form. Simplon had little difficulty in carrying off the Welter Cup; for Border Knight was much over-weighted; and Vagabond, who seemed to have a good chance, lost several lengths at the start.

Versailles, a small two-year-old by Mr. Hodgman's favourite, Victorious, cantered off with a couple of events on the Thursday. In one of them he defeated Countryman, from whom, however, he was in receipt of 44 lb., and the pair finished a long way in front of a large field. The grand style in which Musket won the Great Midland Counties Handicap makes his running in the Liverpool Cup more unaccountable than ever; and though he is by Toxophilite, who was by no means a good stayer when on the turf, it seems clear that over a distance of ground he has few superiors in training. Stanley ran much better than he has previously done this season, actually defeating Bonny Swell easily at level weights; but then Captain Marshall's handsome little colt has been sadly overworked lately. Musket has made steady improvement ever since the beginning of the year, and if he only remains sound a great cup career seems open to him. Stanley was again second on the last day of the meeting; but, later in the afternoon, scored his only victory this year, in the Bradgate Cup. The best of his opponents was Countryman, and it is quite clear that he cannot get more than five furlongs. The Leamington Grand Annual produced a very pretty finish between Scarrington and Hippolyte, which resulted in favour of the former. Brick does not seem to be so good as he was last season; while Tuscan and Fertullagh have gone all to pieces. The legitimate season closed, somewhat ominously, with Firebrand and Conternation first and last in the Winding-Up Handicap.

It is difficult to account for the hollow defeat of the London four by the Southampton men, unless rowing in an unrigged boat and in rough water completely upset them. Still, we should have fancied that a crew which had such a finished oarsman as George Hammerton for its stroke, with Joseph Sadler as No. 2, would have made a good fight of it, and not have suffered defeat by nearly 300 yards. Indeed, after rowing a mile and a half, up to which distance the Londoners were in front, they seemed completely beaten, and the Southampton boat drew away very rapidly, the result never again being in doubt.

The fourth match for the billiard championship was the most interesting one that has yet been played, always excepting the first great contest, which stands quite alone in the annals of the game. There was a very large attendance, including the Nawab of Bengal and his two sons; and except for an hour in the middle of the game, when Bennett was nearly 200 points ahead, the contest was most exciting. That the best man won there can be little doubt; and the result was especially gratifying to us, as we have always written in the highest terms of Bennett's play, and stated that he was sure to be champion at no very distant date. Still, Roberts had very bad luck towards the end of the game, when he missed several all-round cannons by barely an inch; while the balls broke pretty well for Bennett throughout. It was the latter's fine generalship, for which he has always been celebrated, which pulled him through, and we feel quite sure that, as long as the present style of championship tables are in vogue, it will prove a very difficult matter to deprive him of the cup. We never saw two men play in more opposite styles. Bennett was remarkably slow and deliberate over each stroke; he played with excellent strength, and, while never failing to take full advantage of a good opening, gave miss after miss, rather than try for a difficult cannon or hazard. Roberts, on the contrary, played even more rapidly than usual, and, never having the patience to give more than a couple of successive misses, he sent his ball again and again all round the table for some elaborate cannon, which he generally missed by a hair's breadth, often leaving a good break on for his opponent. Considering the smallness of the pockets, Bennett's losing hazards, of which he scarcely missed one, were simply marvellous; and we have never seen more brilliant scoring than just at the close of the game, when Roberts made a last desperate effort to retrieve his fortunes. Immediately the contest was over, a fresh match was made, and the men play again in two months' time, when we venture to predict the result will be the same.

To the Education Crisis Fund being raised by the Roman Catholics in England the Duke of Norfolk has subscribed £10,000, and Lord Howard of Glossop £5000.

NEW BOOKS AND NEW EDITIONS.

It is a matter of no small embarrassment, especially at this season of the year, to find space in our pages merely for a just acknowledgment of the great variety of literary publications sent to us for notice. We are conscious that many of those deserving our best attention have too often been laid upon the table, in hopes of an early opportunity for the worthy exposition of their merits; and that this has sometimes been postponed, after all, to the brief and cursory mention of others less important. Authors and publishers who may have felt any of their works neglected will therefore bear with us if we adopt for this occasion a summary mode of dealing with the piles of attractive volumes they continue to put before us. All that can here be attempted is to announce their production and to indicate the subject of each, the claims of its writer, the plan of its contents, the quality of its style, and the chances of its acceptance in public favour. We must reserve any thorough review, analysis, or criticism for the few instances in which an original work of high literary pretensions, of engrossing interest, or distinguished authorship commands the general reader's mind.

By way of amends for the long delay of a courtesy due to a stranger, we shall begin this collective review with a foreign publication, *Le Japon Illustré*, issued by Messrs. Hachette and Co., in two fine quarto volumes. The author, M. Aimé Humbert, formerly Swiss Envoy at the Court of the Tycoon, explored much of the country, visiting its chief cities, observing the manners and customs of its people, and studying its government, laws, and religion, its arts and industry, its social and domestic life. These subjects are clearly described, with many entertaining anecdotes, in a series of chapters conveniently arranged, and in an agreeable French style, without such rhetorical flights as are sometimes tried in that language.

But the illustrations, which give to this book its main value and beauty, consist of 476 wood engravings, drawn in France from a diversity of graphic materials—pictures by native Japanese artists, photographs from the life, and sketches by Mr. Wrigman, our own Special Artist at Yokohama, and by M. Alfred Roussin, an officer of the French Navy. They form a marvellously abundant exhibition of the scenes, costumes, works, and ways of Japan, some of which are pleasantly queer, as Mr. Wrigman has shown to our readers. After this French book of travels, we shall notice a German one—that of Baron Karl Klaus von der Decken's *Reisen in Ost-Afrika in den Jahren 1859 bis 1861*; the compiler of this book, partly its author as well as editor, being Dr. Otto Kersten, who accompanied Von der Decken's first expedition. It is published by Messrs. Asher and Co., in London, as well as at Leipzig and Heidelberg; and is dedicated to the Crown Princess Victoria of England and Prussia. The regions visited and minutely described are the island of Zanzibar, the harbours of Kiloa and Mombasa, and the interior wilderness on the way towards Lake Nyassa, as far as Mesule, and into the land of Madschame, to the mountain Kilimandscharo, crowned with perpetual snow. The volume is illustrated by some photographs and a number of engravings, with several good maps. Another foreign traveller, but whose narrative is published in English (by Mr. Murray, in two volumes), is the young Marquis de Beauvoir, companion to the Duc de Penthièvre, one of the Orleans Princes, in his *Joyeux Round the World*, from the summer of 1866 to the spring of 1867. They went out in a Melbourne sailing clipper, stayed about six weeks in Victoria, above a fortnight in Tasmania, and nearly a month in New South Wales; thence coasting northward, they touched on Queensland, and proceeded to Java, Singapore, Siam, and Hong-Kong. The first volume is wholly filled with notices of Australia, which show much faculty of observation, and much of judicious reflection. Of the second volume, we should say, those parts which relate to Batavia, and the courts of the Sultans of Java and the King of Siam, will have more attraction of novelty than the accounts of Hong-Kong and Canton. At the place last named we are suddenly left by the Marquis de Beauvoir, who has shown a fair and friendly spirit in his views of these British colonies and settlements in the Southern and Eastern seas. Another travel-book, sent us by Mr. Murray, is *A Ride through the Disturbed Districts of New Zealand*, with some account of the South Sea Islands, compiled of extracts from the journals and letters of Lieutenant the Hon. Herbert Meade, R.N., whose lamented death, in the twenty-seventh year of his age, was caused by the accidental explosion of a rocket charge at Portsmouth. The volume is edited by his brother, and is very well worth reading, as it relates many stirring adventures with the hostile or suspicious Maories, and strange scenes among the savage folk of New Caledonia and the New Hebrides, the Fiji and the Friendly Islands. It contains several chromolithographs of scenery, and a score of engravings, from the sketches by Lieutenant Meade, one or two of which were allowed by him, at the time, to appear in this Journal. Together with the most recent description of the South Sea Islands, we receive, from the same publisher, Lady Belcher's new history of a famous old transaction in those parts of the globe. *The Mutineers of the Bounty*, those sturdy rebel-sailors of 1789, who carried off one of H. M. ships, leaving Lieutenant Bligh adrift in a boat, and some of whose descendants, by the Tahitian women, were found on Pitcairn Island in 1808, have become celebrated by the beautiful poem of Lord Byron on this romantic subject. The late Sir John Barrow, Secretary to the Admiralty, wrote a prose narrative of the affair, nearly forty years ago, for the series of "The Family Library"; but much additional information has since been obtained. Lady Belcher, as the step-daughter of Captain Peter Heywood, one of the midshipmen in the *Bounty*, has had access to private papers and personal communications which enable her to give us a more correct and complete account than had yet appeared. She has been furnished by Admiral Sir Fairfax Moresby and others with materials for a report of the later history of the Pitcairn Islanders, before and since their removal to Norfolk Island. The whole makes an interesting book.

Those lovers of literature, who cherish a personal interest in the lives of eminent authors nearest their own time, will find in Mr. S. C. Hall's *Book of Memories*, published by Messrs. Virtue and Co., one of the most congenial productions of the season. His opportunities have been great, during a busy career of nearly forty-five years, as conductor of several literary and artistic magazines, and as one of that class in London society who habitually occupy themselves with the progress of taste and mental culture. He has enjoyed more or less acquaintance, or occasional communications, with a large number of celebrated Englishmen and Englishwomen; while he has been enabled also to collect from others' testimony, or from memorials and documents offered to his inspection, a valuable store of original materials for the illustration of their characters and manners. In this task he seems to have been much assisted by Mrs. S. C. Hall, and the result is decidedly agreeable. Since all the persons included in these biographical notices—who are nearly a hundred men and women of letters, and above thirty artists—have been laid in the tomb, few minds will be offended by the degree of consideration here

bestowed upon them, or will contest the right of Mr. and Mrs. Hall to indulge their own sentiments of general kindness and particular friendship in a liberal dispensation of praise. Omitting the names of a multitude not likely to be inquired after by the rising generation, we might mention those of Tom Moore, Coleridge, Wordsworth, Sir Walter Scott, Campbell, Irving, Charles Lamb, Bentham, Miss Edgeworth, Wilson, Jeffrey, Theodore Hook, Tom Hood, Mrs. Hemans, Fenimore Cooper, Washington Irving, Landor, Leigh Hunt, Jerrold, Hallam, Macaulay, Sydney Smith, Miss Mitford, Dean Milman, Nathaniel Hawthorne, and Charles Dickens, among the writers of the nineteenth century, and of Sir T. Lawrence, Maclise, and many artists between these, whose biographical treatment in this pleasant collection will be found worthy of attention. Some of these, for instance Sir Walter Scott, are persons whom Mr. Hall, as he plainly tells us, saw but once or twice, and with whom he had no private conversation; but he seldom fails to add a few traits, from some source or other, to our previous knowledge of their bearing and condition. In other cases, he speaks from recollections of his own intimate acquaintance with them, or at least of frequent meetings with them in general company, during a long period of years. The engravings, which are very numerous throughout the handsome volume, comprise many good portraits, outside and inside views of houses, or views of other scenes associated with the lives recorded, such as the landscape around a birthplace or a home, or the monument over a grave; but we think not the least interesting are the autographs, signatures, and specimens of handwriting, often copied from original entries in Mrs. Hall's album. This book, we think, will be sure of popular acceptance.

METROPOLITAN NEWS.

The South-Western Provident Dispensary, to the exhausted state of whose funds we called attention last week, is situated at 41, Denbigh-street, Pimlico.

At the Court of Directors of the Bank of England, yesterday week, it was arranged to nominate Mr. George Lyall and Mr. Benjamin Buck Greene for Governor and Deputy Governor at the election in April next.

The 206th anniversary festival of the Scottish Corporation was celebrated, on Wednesday evening, at Freemasons' Hall, where a banquet was partaken of by about 500 gentlemen. The Duke of Argyll, who took the chair, advocated the claims of the society, and a liberal subscription was the consequence.

Mr. C. Comfort presided at the half-yearly meeting of the Metropolitan Benefit Societies' Asylum. The report showed that there were fifty-one inmates, of the average age of seventy-one years—the capital being £3150 East Indian Government Railway Stock, and £3200 remaining to be restored, having been applied to complete the building.

At a court of the governors of the Hospital for Consumption and Diseases of the Chest, Brompton, recently held—the Rev. Sir H. Foulis, Bart., in the chair—the following legacies were announced:—Mrs. Dunsmore, £100; H. Bickley, £50; Lord H. Seymour, further payment of £82; Mrs. Foster, £25; J. Ivatt Briscoe, M.P., £500; Miss Elizabeth V. Carter, £50. The number of patients admitted since Aug. 4 was 323; discharged, many greatly benefited, 271; died, 40; new out-patient cases, 319.

The annual meeting of the Royal Hospital for Incurables was held, yesterday week, at the London Tavern. Mr. Henry Huth, the treasurer, reported that there were 318 candidates seeking for admission, but it was impossible to admit more than fifteen, owing to an insufficiency of funds. He appealed to those benevolent persons who had hitherto supported the institution to give further donations, and to those philanthropic individuals who were at present not donors to become so. The accounts to Sept. 30 last showed a gross revenue for the year of £27,971, out of which £11,500 had been invested in the funds; £421 was carried over as balance, and the remainder had been expended on the objects of the institution.

It was reported at the half-yearly meeting of the Infant Orphan Asylum that the number of children in the asylum at Wanstead was 580, and thirty more would be admitted from a list of 147 candidates. More than one fourth of the children admitted were the offspring of consumptive parents, and of consequence in delicate health. In order to strengthen the constitutions of these delicate children, the committee had taken premises at Margate, containing every requisite accommodation for twenty children, and the results had been very satisfactory. The income for the past year had been £18,405, and, after payment of all expenses and investing £1142, there remained a balance of £243. The invested stock was now £45,000.

The anniversary meeting of the Royal Society took place, on Wednesday, at Burlington House. After the customary preliminaries the president delivered his annual address. He then awarded the medals in the gift of the society to those present—namely, the Copley medal to Mr. James Prescott Joule, F.R.S.; the Royal medal to Professor William Hallowes Miller, foreign secretary, R.S.; the Royal medal to Mr. Thomas Davidson, F.R.S.; the Rumford medal to M. Alfred Olivier Des Cloizeaux. Later in the evening the members and visitors dined together at Willis's Rooms. General Sir Edward Sabine filled the chair, supported by the Lord Chancellor, Mr. Gladstone, Sir Henry Holland, and other distinguished persons.

The annual inspection of the Inns of Court Rifle Volunteers was held in Richmond Park on Saturday last. Colonel Taylor, C.B., Assistant Adjutant-General of the Home District, the inspecting officer, after passing down the ranks and closely observing the various movements through which the regiment was put by the present commanding officer, Major Bulwer, Q.C., expressed great satisfaction at the excellent manner in which they were executed, and also at the great attention which all ranks had given to the new drill. The manual and platoon exercise, under Major Chitty, was also well performed. In the evening the usual inspection dinner was held in the Middle Temple Hall—Major Bulwer in the chair.

The annual meeting and election of pensioners of the National Benevolent Institution was held at the Freemasons' Tavern—Mr. Henry Pownall in the chair. There was a very large attendance. The Rev. F. Latrelle, the hon. secretary, read the report, of which the following is an abstract:—The committee congratulate the subscribers upon the condition of the institution. The charitable disbursements had exceeded those of the previous year by £155, and the committee are prepared to make a further increase in the ensuing year. The number of pensioners at Christmas next will be larger than at any previous period. The receipts for the past year, including the balance of £1763, have been £13,621. The donations have been funded. The payments to pensioners amounted to £6943, and the working expenses to £1105, leaving a balance of £1730.

THE FARM.

At the Birmingham Cattle Show, during the past week, a larger number of animals were exhibited in every class than in 1869, although the number of cattle, sheep, and poultry fell short of 1868. In the cattle classes the Herefords were more numerous than usual, with the prime quality prevailing among the cows, heifers, and young steers; but there was a less than usual degree of excellence among the older steers and oxen. The shorthorns disappointed many of their admirers, for, although numerically strong, they were deficient in other respects. Even Mr. Pulver's steer, the crack animal of the show, hardly touches the high standard of excellence previously maintained at Bingley Hall exhibitions. This animal, bred at Broughton, near Kettering, had already signalled himself in many a showyard struggle, and succeeded in carrying off a list of prizes and honours at Birmingham too long to give at length. He is, however, dubbed best shorthorn, best animal in the cattle classes, and best ox or steer of any breed or age, and is considered on all hands to have well deserved his success. The class of Devons, although small, was very good; and the judges were lavish of "commendations." Mr. M'Combie of Tillyfour contributed a heavy, but not very symmetrical, black polled bullock, and a model of a heifer, "as true and level as a die, and as handsome as a picture." The show of sheep was attractive. Shropshires were specially good; Leicesters and Southdowns, as usual, perfect. Cotswolds were badly represented. In the pig classes, with the exception of the large breeding animals, the show was better than on former occasions. Besides the above three principal features of the show, there were prizes offered for corn, roots, and potatoes. Implements also were exhibited from many of the best-known firms.

The great agricultural event of the coming week is the Smithfield Show, at Islington.

The question as to whether sugar-beet can be successfully grown in this country is being gradually solved. Mr. Caird's recent letters to the *Times* has made us acquainted with the fact that the Lavenham sugar factory is at last profitable. The following are the main results of a week's working:—The total value of the syrup produced is £960. The expenditure, including cost of roots, Government duty, and working expenses, does not exceed £660. So there is a handsome balance for interest of capital and profit, besides the value of the refuse pulp sold, and thus returned to the land as cattle food. The roots are, no doubt, richer in sugar this year than usual; but, on the other hand, sugar is very cheap.

Professor Church recently gave the Cirencester Chamber of Agriculture a valuable professional opinion upon the feeding value of acorns and the danger attending their use. The Professor ridiculed the notion that the acorn was injurious on account of the starch it contains being given in an uncooked condition. Since we are constantly in the habit of giving barley and oats to animals in the raw state, and these substances contain from 60 to 65 per cent of starch, this idea must be abandoned. The true causes of injury are found in the fact that the husk of the acorn may be spoken of as a woody box or structure which prevents digestion, and may thus cause irritation and produce death. It must also be remembered that the acorn is a large and dense seed, containing, in addition to starch and oil, a considerable amount of tannin. If acorns were converted into flour, and if the tannin were destroyed, the food would be rendered more digestible and palatable. Acorns may be rendered safe and agreeable as food by getting rid of their hardness, their large size, their indigestible exterior, and their tannin; and they may be rendered softer and more digestible by steaming and the addition of a small quantity of soda. About 4 oz. of soda to 1 cwt. of acorn meal will suffice to destroy the greater portion of the tannin, and by pouring off the water the injurious matter will be got rid of.

Mr. Duckham, the editor of the *Hereford Herd-Book*, has just issued a "Record of Hereford Transactions," which will appear half-yearly. This publication resembles Thornton's shorthorn circular in general arrangement. It commences with a reprint of the prize-lists of some of our most important shows, so far as Hereford honours are concerned. Next follow results of sales during the summer, a list of animals exported, and some interesting extracts from colonial papers upon the advantages of pure Hereford cattle. Lastly, we find a catalogue of animals for private sale, full particulars of which will be supplied by Mr. Duckham. The Hereford breed has met with an enthusiastic admirer and supporter in Mr. Duckham, and it is to be sincerely hoped that his endeavours to extend his favourite breed will be crowned with success. The following short extract from the "Record," supported by the authority of the *Sydney Morning Herald*, is interesting from both a grazier's and a naturalist's point of view:—"The Devon is not much used in New South Wales. The native mountain spirit soon breaks the crust of civilisation, and becomes visible in wildness of eye and an inconvenient disinclination to human society. The debate concerning the merits of shorthorns or Herefords is very strong. Both breeds have many advocates. It is generally admitted, however, that the Hereford travels better than the shorthorn, and better endures periods of dearth and drought. Shorthorns are the favourite breed, judging from their number, and probably there are localities to which they are best adapted. There is no stock of native cattle upon which to effect a graft—the cattle having been all imported—and it is found as yet that sufficient fixity of character has not been gained by the acclimatised race to make them independent of home blood. Deterioration takes place quickly, and it is necessary to prevent this by continued importation both of Hereford and shorthorn blood."

At the last meeting of the Swindon Chamber of Agriculture, Mr. J. H. Piper, hon. sec., in an able paper on the Hindrances to the Development of Agriculture, complained of the abnormal competition for farms. This is due, in a great measure, to the isolated position of farmers themselves, which results in the fact that they and their sons must farm because they can undertake no other work. Mr. Williams (Bishopstone), in the debate following the lecture, also laid stress upon the unnatural increase in rents on account of the influx into the country of young men, the sons of rich merchants, determined to farm, although "scarcely knowing the difference between a turnip and a swede or a pig from a sheep." "Thus the young man goes on, looking to his father for the expenses. These little occurrences make farm rents higher than they would otherwise be. Such facts," continued Mr. Williams, "may appear little; but in reality they are very important, and make a vast difference to us as farmers who have to get our living from the farms we occupy."

In St. Andrew's Cathedral, Inverness, on Wednesday, the Rev. Allan Webb, of University College, Oxford, was consecrated Bishop of Orange River Free State.

The Earl of Dalhousie, the retiring Grand Master of the order in Scotland, laid the foundation-stone of a new Masonic Hall, on Wednesday, at Edinburgh. The Earl of Rosslyn was installed Grand Master of Scotland in the evening.



THE ELECTIONS FOR THE SCHOOL BOARDS: CANVASSING A LADY VOTER.



A SKETCH AT THE CATTLE-SHOW, BIRMINGHAM.



SCENE FROM "THE ODDS," AT THE HOLBORN THEATRE.

PIGS IN BLISS AND GLORY.

The sketch of a scene incidental to the Birmingham Cattle and Poultry Show, held this week in Bingley Hall, is probably designed by our Artist, Mr. S. Carter, "to hold the mirror up to Nature" in regard to the character of the pig. That comfortable and profitable, if not very noble, animal is one of her favourite children—if we may judge from the quantity she allows him to eat, and to thrive and grow fat upon it, while none of his fellow-creatures, belonging to a different race, bovine, ovine, or other whatsoever, could venture to devour such an amount, in proportion to their stature, without risk of death or disease. The porcine brute, therefore, if the sum of brutish feeding be the brutish *summum bonum*, must be esteemed the happiest of irrational mortals. He is, indeed, in his own self-satisfaction, the most highly privileged. He envies neither the lark and nightingale their powers of flight and song, nor the salmon his delightful exchange of sea and river waters, nor the bee and butterfly their sweet visits to the odorous flower, nor the wise dog and gallant horse their trusty service of lordly man, nor the lion and the eagle their timeless might in the desert spaces of earth and air. The pig knows what he likes, and when he has got it, a stranger intermeddles not with his joy. In a pair of buckets—one full of barley-meal, which his attendant forms into convenient balls for the petted darling's mouth—the other filled with some kind of thick liquid, or "heavy wet," to be diffused through the interstices of the more solid food in his hugely-distended stomach—the pig has that which he can best value, and which best prepares him to take honours as a prize pig. He fulfills his destiny by filling his belly. We have just received a new book, "On the Intelligence and Perfectibility of Animals," which we have not yet had time to read. If it throws any light upon this subject, "from a philosophic point of view," we shall not fail to impart it to our readers. The work is a serious one, and appears both clever and instructive.

SCENE FROM "THE ODDS," AT THE HOLBORN THEATRE.

Mr. Sefton Parry, the proprietor of the Holborn, has been very successful in his first effort of authorship—his drama called, "The Odds" having sustained itself on the stage from the opening of the season to the present time. We need not say the play is sensational, and the illustration which we present this week represents the scene which gives that character to the piece. The author has told us that he conceived the idea from the murder supposed to have been committed by Müller on Mr. Briggs, and the reader may see in the picture how he has managed to put such a situation on the boards. It certainly presented difficulties; nor can we say that they have been all overcome; but probably the utmost was done that could be. We have here Miss Lydia Foote, the heroine, assailed by the adventurer, who meant to rob her of the money won at the race, but who is assailed in his turn by his ever-watchful rival, who smites him from behind so that he falls beneath the wheels of the train. Unfortunately, on the stage, the carriages cannot be otherwise than stationary while the deed is perpetrated; but everything is done to lend the semblance of motion to the scene by showing the landscape beyond as moving, thus reproducing a delusion of the senses familiar to the railway traveller. The piece itself in which this is the principal situation has a close resemblance to Mr. Boucicault's "Flying Scud"; but the dialogue differs in many material respects. It is more "turfy," and imitates the talk of common life with a servility which conduces to its "realism" in a degree unprecedented even in the most realistic dramas of the present day.

Alderman John Daly was unanimously elected Mayor of Cork on Thursday.

The Countess of Flanders gave birth on Wednesday morning to twins, girls.

The New South Wales Exhibition at Sydney (of which we gave an Engraving last week) has closed, after a successful season. The Agricultural Society has gained about £2000 to enable it to undertake works for the future good of the colony.

A statue of the Rev. Dr. M'Neile, commissioned for St. George's Hall, Liverpool, on the promotion of the reverend gentleman to the Deanery of Ripon, has been completed by Mr. G. G. Adams, and forwarded to its destination. Report speaks favourably of the work.

The Manchester *Guardian* announces that the second of the English Atlantic cables is broken. It is supposed that the vessel sent out to fish up the cable previously injured has hooked the sound one, and so caused the accident. Communication is now carried on solely by the French cable.

The Duke of Wellington has presented to Wellington College Wyatt's magnificent bust of his father. It has been placed in the front quadrangle of the college, upon a fine terminal pedestal of Devonshire marble, also presented by the Duke. A new wing has been added to the college, and opened in the present term.

The Board of Trade returns show that the value of the imports for the month of September was £21,934,182, as compared with £23,138,033 in the corresponding month last year. For the nine months ended Sept. 30 the imports were entered at £182,400,543, as against £171,721,097 last year. The exports

last month increased more than a million sterling in value, being £17,550,799; and for the ten months they amounted to £166,181,990, as compared with £159,162,432 last year.

There was a fatal collision on the London and North-Western Railway last Saturday evening. The special train for Holyhead, which leaves Euston-square at five o'clock, while passing Harrow station at full speed, came into collision with a goods-train which was being shunted on a siding. Seven lives were lost, and many of the passengers received severe injuries. On the same line, about twelve hours previously, the up Irish mail ran into a train of empty cattle-trucks near the Watford tunnel. In this instance there was no loss of life. In each case the passenger-train was travelling at an average speed of forty miles an hour.

MONETARY AND COMMERCIAL TRANSACTIONS.

(From our City Correspondent.)

The aspect of the Eastern question having become more favourable, and the fresh defeats sustained by the French arms being considered likely to convince the Paris population that any attempt to relieve the capital will prove abortive and will only entail further slaughter, and that they, therefore, will be more inclined to come to terms, the Stock Markets, in consequence, have been decidedly firmer, and a general advance has ensued. Consols have been firm, at 93½ to 93½ for delivery, and 91½ to 92 ex div. for January. Reduced and New Three per Cents, 91½ to 91½; Bank Stock, 231 to 233; Exchequer Bills, 10s. to 15s. prem.; India Five per Cents, 112½ to 113½; and India Bonds, 22s. to 27s. prem.

Colonial Government Securities have been in limited request; but the quotations have ruled firm.

The Railway Market has been steady. North-Western Stock has been depressed, in consequence of the disastrous accident at Harrow; but the value of the other leading lines has been well maintained. Indian Stocks have been firm. Canadian and Foreign Shares have been quiet, but steady.—Metropolitan, 64½ to 65; Caledonian, 78½ to 79½; Brighton, 40½ to 40½; South-Eastern, 74 to 74½; Great Northern, A, 133½ to 134; Great Eastern, 38½ to 39; North-Eastern, 143½ to 144; Midland, 127½ to 128; North-Western, 127½ to 128; Great Western, 69½ to 70; Lombards, 14½ to 14½; Erie, 20½ to 21½; and Illinois Central, 111 to 112.

In the Foreign Bond Market there has been a decided increase of steadiness. Large speculative purchases have been made, and a general recovery has taken place:—Egyptian, 168½ to 174; Italian, 1861, 55½ to 55½; Spanish, 1867, 3½ to 3½; Ditto, 1869, 31 to 31½; Turkish Five per Cents, 4½ to 4½; Ditto, 1869, 50½ to 50½; Mexican, 13½ to 14½; Peruvian, 1865, 9½ to 9½. United States 5-20, 1882, Bonds, 88½ to 88½; Ditto, 1885, 87½ to 88. The French Loan has improved to 3 to 3½ prem.

In Bank Shares not much business has been done; but prices have ruled firm. Telegraph Shares have been quiet:—Anglo-American, 16½ to 17; British Indian Submarine, 7 to 7½; and Construction, 27 to 27½. Miscellaneous Securities have been dealt in quietly.

The Discount Market has been without feature of importance. Large supplies of capital have been offered; and, with a limited inquiry for accommodation, three-months' paper has been taken at 2½ per cent.

The bullion arrivals during the week have been moderate. The movements have been altogether unimportant.

Silver has been flat. Mexican dollars have fallen to 58½d. per ounce. Bar silver is quoted at 60½d. per ounce. In the rates of foreign exchange no material alteration has taken place.

A prospectus has been issued of the Thornhill Reef Gold Mining Company, with a capital of £20,000, in shares of £1, for mining purposes in the district of Maldon, Victoria, Australia.

It is stated that the forthcoming report of the Peninsular and Oriental Company will recommend a dividend of 2 per cent for the six months ending Sept. 30 last, making, with 3 per cent paid in June, 5 per cent for the year. A payment of 2 per cent will also be recommended from the proprietors' underwriting account.

At the annual meeting of the Ilfracombe Hotel Company (Limited) to-day, a dividend of 8 per cent was declared, leaving a large balance to be carried forward; and a resolution was passed to increase the share capital by the issue of 1000 new shares of £10 each, for the purpose of enlarging the present building and paying off a portion of the company's debenture debt.

At a meeting of the Imperial Continental Gas Association a dividend of £2 per share was declared upon the 56,000 shares of the association for the half year ended June 30.

The return of the Bank of England shows the following results when compared with the previous week:—

An increase in circulation of .. £136,801
An increase in public deposits of .. 204,479
A decrease in other deposits of .. 388,334
A decrease in other securities of .. 65,707
A decrease in bullion of .. 34,196
A decrease in rest of .. 52,849
A decrease in reserve of .. 192,671

The circulation, including post bills, is now £24,264,175; public deposits amount to £5,865,517; and private deposits to £18,893,125. The securities held represent £29,421,787; and the stock of bullion is £22,169,762. The rest stands at £3,061,727.

THE MARKETS.

CORN EXCHANGE (Monday).—The excitement which has lately prevailed in the wheat trade has now subsided, and values have again shown a downward tendency. On Monday, notwithstanding the small show of English wheat at Mark-lane, the trade ruled very dull, and sales could only be effected at a decline of 1s. per quarter in both English and foreign descriptions. Barley was quiet, and secondary qualities were rather lower to sell. Malt was without change in value, but maize and oats could be bought on easier terms. Beans and peas were very scarce, and supported the recent advance. The flour trade was very dull, and foreign and country marks were 1s. cheaper.

Grain.—The following are the quantities sold and the average prices:—

For the week ending Nov. 26, 1870.	For the corresponding week last year.		
Qrs.	Av.	Qrs.	Av.
Wheat .. 77,637 .. 50s. 5d.	48,960 .. 45s. 6d.		
Barley .. 88,554 .. 36s. 2d.	75,736 .. 28s. 1d.		
Oats .. 5,038 .. 23s. 7d.	3,539 .. 23s. 5d		

Arrivals this week.—English and Scotch: Wheat, 60; barley, 180; peas, 20 qrs. Foreign: Wheat, 3930; maize, 1810 qrs.; flour, 510 sacks and 10,440 barrels.

English Currency.—Red wheat, 45s. to 52s.; white ditto, 50s. to 55s.; barley, 9s. to 42s.; malt, 48s. to 66s.; oats, 24s. to 29s.; beans, 38s. to 49s.; peas, 36s. to 42s. per quarter; flour, 32s. to 47s. per 280lb.

Seeds.—The seed market has remained without movement, all agricultural seeds having been little inquired for. Oil seeds have ruled firm in value.

Colonial Produce.—Tea has sold slowly, and inferior congeous have ruled lower to sell. The sugar market has been quiet but firm, and strong refining qualities have changed hands freely. The supplies of coffee coming forward have been liberal, but the demand has ruled steady, and the quotations have been supported. Cocoa is without change. Rice has been inactive.

Provisions.—Bitter: Owing to the exports from France being prohibited, holders of Irish ask higher rates, but purchases are effected cautiously. Canadian of good quality is held for 11s. to 11s.; Zwolle and Kampen, 12s. to 18s.; Danzig and Kiel, 14s. to 14s.; Bosch, 9s. to 11s.; Leer, 9s. to 10s.; Jersey, 11s. to 13s.; Normandy, 9s. to 15s.; Cheese; Fine qualities command a moderate

amount of attention, at prices well maintained, other descriptions are in limited request. Bacon: For Irish singed there is a rather better demand, at an advance of 1s. to 2s. per cwt.; Hamburg and Danish sizable and light weights are disposed of at 60s. to 63s., landed; Irish short-rib in middles are sold at about 2s. 2d., these being very little inquiry. Hams: The demand for new Irish is fairly active, and prices are steady. Lard: For all descriptions there is very little inquiry, and prices remain unchanged.

Hay and Straw.—There were moderate supplies on offer at the market to-day. Sales progressed steadily, and prices were well maintained:—Prime meadow hay, 13s. to 14s.; inferior ditto, 11s.; to 12s.; prime first-cut clover, 13s. to 14s.; inferior ditto, 11s. to 12s.; prime second-cut clover, 12s. to 13s.; inferior ditto, 10s. to 11s.; and straw, 3s. to 3s. per load.

Spirits.—Rum has changed hands quietly, on former terms. Brandy is unaltered in value.

Hops.—There is no feature of importance to notice in the market. Good Belgian and Bavarian qualities have sold freely, while English sorts have ruled firm in value.

Potatoes.—The metropolitan markets have been fairly supplied, and the trade has ruled quiet, at late rates.

Wool.—The public sales of colonial wool were brought to an end on Tuesday last. Notwithstanding the almost total absence of French buyers, and the unfavourable influence of the war on trade generally, the attendance of buyers has always been good—sometimes even large; and prices have had a hardening tendency throughout, until the closing rates may be quoted decidedly higher than the opening ones. The prices current at the end of the July sales, after the declaration of war, were hardly more than nominal, so wide were the fluctuations occasioned by the sudden withdrawal of the foreigners. The present series opened with far more steadiness in values, although the reduction, as compared with the rates current before the war, was fully 1s. to 2d. on the average.

Oils.—Linseed oil is quoted at 30s.; English brown rape, 4s.; refined, 4s.; foreign, 50s. Fish oils are unchanged in value.

Tallow.—The market has ruled steady, at 4s. 2d. for X.C. on the spot; 43s. December; and 44s. for March.

Coals.—Sunderland, 17s. to 18s.; Newcastle, 16s. 3d. to 17s. per ton.

Metropolitan Cattle Market (Thursday).—There was a decided improvement noticeable throughout the cattle trade to-day, in consequence of the more favourable weather, and prices generally were enhanced. There was a fair average supply of beasts on sale, of which a fair number came to hand in good condition. The inquiry for all descriptions was animated, and values occasionally advanced 2d. per lb. There was a moderate show of sheep in the pens. The demand was moderately active, and prime animals in some instances realised fully 2d. per lb. more money than on Monday last. Calves and pigs were purchased steadily, at the extreme currencies of Monday.

Per 8lb., to sink the offal:—Coarse and inferior beasts, 3s. 4d. to 4s. 2d.; second quality ditto, 4s. 4d. to 4s. 8d.; prime large oxen, 5s. 2d. to 5s. 8d.; prime Scots, &c., 5s. 5d. to 5s. 10d.; coarse and inferior sheep, 3s. 4d. to 3s. 8d.; second quality ditto, 3s. 10d. to 4s. 6d.; prime coarse-woolled ditto, 4s. 10d. to 5s. 6d.; prime Southdown ditto, 5s. 10d. to 6s. 0d.; large coarse calves, 3s. 6d. to 4s. 0d.; prime small ditto, 5s. 0d. to 5s. 10d.; large hogs, 4s. 4d. to 5s. 2d.; neat small porkers, 5s. 6d. to 6s. 2d.; quarter-old store pigs, 22s. to 26s. each. Total supply:—English: Beasts, 630; sheep, 3430; calves, 45; pigs, 0. Foreign: Beasts, 680; sheep, 2500; calves, 160; pigs, 70.

Per Dozen Pattern, Ivory Table Knives, full size, Balance Handles, Doz. 1s. 6d. to 2s. 6d. were best quality. 1s. 6d.

Dessert ditto .. 1 0 0 .. 1 10 0 Table knives 1 s. 0 0

Table Spoons .. 1 0 0 .. 1 18 0 Dessert ditto 1 0 0

Dessert ditto .. 0 0 0 .. 1 10 0 Carvers (per pair) 0 6 9

Tea Spoons .. 0 12 0 .. 0 18 0 Kitchen Knives and Forks 8 6

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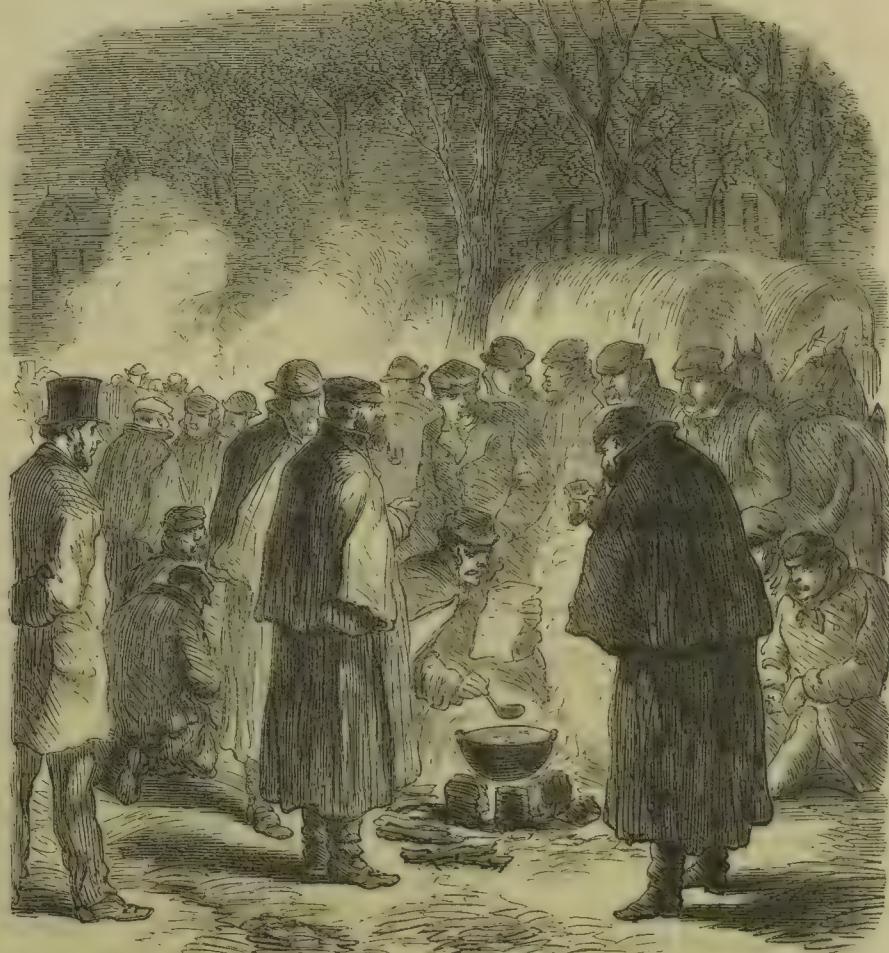
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STORES AT THE COLOGNE RAILWAY STATION FOR THE ARMY BESIEGING PARIS.



PRUSSIAN MILITARY FUNERAL AT VERSAILLES.



WAGGONERS OF THE GERMAN PROVISION TRAINS AT VERSAILLES.

ILLUSTRATIONS OF THE WAR.

Our Special Artist at the Versailles head-quarters of the Prussian army contributes a number of sketches for the engravings in this week's publication. One of them represents the quick march of a body of the landwehr suddenly ordered out, at Ville d'Avray, near Sèvres, to resist a French sortie; and on the same page is seen the 24th Regiment of Infantry, in the evening, marching back to its quarters after the fight; the soldiers all singing, and nearly all smoking their large pipes. Four other subjects are delineated in our present Number from sketches by this Artist. One is the party of soldiers getting their breakfast at the refreshment-stall in front of the Mairie at Versailles, while the first snow of the winter begins to fall upon them. The waggoners of the provision-trains, waiting and lounging at their night bivouac in the Avenue of St. Cloud, form a picture of life in the army before Paris. Death in that army is, of course, very busy; and many interments daily take place in the Cemetery of Notre Dame, at Versailles, where at least three hundred poor fellows have been laid in one large pit, shown in an Illustration to which we refer. The simple religious service is performed by a German minister of the Lutheran faith, in the presence of one or two officers and some comrades of the deceased. The last of this set of Illustrations represents a scene in the pretty wood called the Bois de Fausses Reposes, lying between Versailles and Sèvres, towards the park of St. Cloud. Many of the starving French and country people outside of the reach of the Paris Government are naturally tempted to profit by the present interruption of civil rule to help themselves to a winter stock of fuel—that costly necessary of life in the neighbourhood of Paris—from the trees of this Royal or Imperial demesne. While so engaged, they are now and then startled by a shell fired from Mont Valérien crossing the valley and passing above the tops of the trees towards the Prussian position. But even the women and the little children, who are gleaning sticks and dry leaves for their wretched firesides, have already learned not to be much afraid of these tremendous incidents of warfare—hunger and cold are to them much more dreadful.

From our Special Artist in the south of France, where the bustle of military preparation is mingled with that of political agitation, menacing the country with further confusion, we have received several sketches—namely, of the works to extend the fortifications of the Isère valley, at Grenoble, and the fortifications around Lyons. We present one, also, of the scene in the Place de l'Hôtel de Ville at Lyons during the enrolment of volunteers for the Garibaldian legion. The Artist, going by way of Germany to Geneva, in order to get to Lyons, took note of the vast quantities of Prussian military stores on the railways, destined for the army besieging Paris. An instance of this he saw at the Cologne station.

The sketches which have been sent us, by balloon post, from inside the besieged French metropolis, and which appear in our Paper to-day, mostly refer to the extraordinary arrangements for the food supply of the population. An account of these matters, by our Paris correspondent, is separately furnished, and will explain the proceedings at the Halle Centrale, or General Market, where the stores of meat, including horseflesh, of Seine fish, and meal or flour, are daily offered for sale. The only other sketch from Paris this week presented is that of the departure of the first large party of British subjects, with many Anglo-American citizens, on Tuesday, the 8th inst., the manner of which was described in our correspondent's diary already published. They were accompanied by the Secretary to the British Embassy, Mr. E. R. Wodehouse, by the Vice-Consul, the Military Attaché to the Embassy, and several agents or members of the British Charitable Fund. Some of them went in private or hired carriages; others in omnibuses; they formed a sort of procession, with a few other vehicles belonging to the ambulance services of different societies for the help of the sick and wounded. Having started at day-break, and come out by the Porte de Charenton, they soon reached the hamlet of Le Petit Crétel, two miles outside of the city walls, on the south-east side of Paris. About fifty other foreigners—poor Swiss and Austrians for the most part—were permitted to go out with them. At Le Petit Crétel, the last French outpost, where our sketch was taken, they were obliged to alight, and to walk on foot to the Prussian lines, within which they were admitted by virtue of the pass which Count Bismarck had granted. They were escorted by a couple of French staff officers, a trumpeter, and a soldier bearing a white flag. When they entered the lines of the Prussian army they were compelled to make a wide circuit to its rear, passing round by Brie-Comte-Robert, and underwent so many detentions that they could not get to Versailles till after several days. But they were all heartily glad to leave Paris on any terms, in its present distressing condition.

THE ECLIPSE EXPEDITION.

Nature states that the eclipse expedition will comprise four parties. Beginning with Spain, we have one to Cadiz, in charge of the Rev. J. S. Perry, and one to Gibraltar, under Captain Noble. The English branch of the Anglo-American expedition will be under the charge of Mr. Lockyer; while there will be a fourth small expedition, under the charge of Mr. Huggins, to Oran. The Cadiz, Gibraltar, and Oran parties will leave Portsmouth on Dec. 5, in the *Urgent*. The Sicilian party will leave London on the night of the 7th, by the Brenner Pass, a ship of war meeting them at Naples.

Lord Lindsay left yesterday week for Cadiz by the steamer London, taking with him a large quantity of apparatus and a house for its use. Amongst these instruments are two of a superior character, manufactured by Mr. Browning, which deserves special mention—namely, a very fine telescope, with a 12½-inch reflector, equatorially mounted, and driven by clock-work, and a set of photographic apparatus, devised specially for the coming operations, and which may be described as being on a breech-loading principle. The arrangement is such that one assistant can prepare plates, fit them in the frames, and feed them in at the lower end of the slide. In this way it is hoped that six or seven pictures will be obtained during the totality, although that lasts only 2 min. 7 secs. If the first four or five pictures are successful the last plate or two will be given a lengthened exposure with the view of obtaining an image of the corona. Lord Lindsay is accompanied by Dr. Brown, R.A., who takes with him a 6-inch refractor telescope, with one of Mr. Browning's star-spectroscopes attached to it for the purpose of making observations on the spectrum of the corona. Lord Lindsay also takes with him a professional photographer.

The central committee of the German Society for the Aid of the Sick and Wounded in War has hitherto received about 742,000 thalers from America. Of this sum, 563,000 thalers came from the United States alone, and about 50,000 thalers from the La Plata States.

THE PARIS FOOD MARKETS.

(From our own Correspondent.)

The aspect of the Halles Centrales of Paris—those magnificent markets which are unrivalled in the world—has undergone a complete transformation since the commencement of the siege. The first change one noticed was in the fish pavilion, where the arrival of the railway-trucks, driven at full speed and freighted with tons of sea-fish from the northern and western coasts, presented no longer the exciting event of the day. After Sept. 15 no more sea-fish arrived in Paris, and the supply of fresh-water fish being extremely trifling, the pavilion was chiefly devoted to the sale of all manner of alimentary odds and ends, including dried cod, bullocks' liver, salt junk, sheep's heads and cows' heels, and ultimately horseflesh. A falling off was next apparent in the pavilion appropriated to the sale of game and poultry, then in that devoted to cheese, butter, and eggs; eventually butchers' meat began to disappear and to be gradually supplanted by horseflesh; and, finally, fruit, after becoming scarce and dear, vanished altogether. At first the dead-meat market was kept perfectly sacred, and not a pound of horseflesh was permitted to penetrate its precincts; but when beef and mutton came to be rationed out, and the trade therein was confined to the municipal butchers, the doors of the pavilion were thrown open, and carcasses of horses were admitted as freely as those of oxen and sheep had been before. Now one can promenade for a quarter of a mile or more in front of joints of horseflesh, growing small by degrees and beautifully less, from the entire side to the diminutive fillet. Of course, no one could mistake a side of horse for a side of beef; but the horse-steaks—as regards the look, at any rate—are hardly, if at all, distinguishable from the beef. The price of horseflesh being fixed by Government decree, and the supply being nearly equivalent to the demand—for at the present moment only a percentage of the inhabitants of Paris have taken to feeding regularly off the *viande de cheval*—those with moderate purses who have overcome the prejudices of past years are enabled, even in these famine times, to secure a substantial allowance of animal food of this particular kind. For many weeks past horse-broth has formed the basis of all the soups, even at the most expensive hotels and restaurants.

As but little fresh-water fish seems to be caught in the Seine, or, if caught, finds its way to the Paris markets, such as is consigned there realises most exorbitant prices. The invariable practice is to dispose of it by auction; and the excitement that will be got up over a Seine eel and half a dozen gudgeons—which will be eventually knocked down, the one at five-and-twenty francs and the others at even more—is something tremendous: the screaming and shouting and struggling remind one of that famous scene at the commencement of the siege, when a cargo of Dutch cheeses, the owner of which was unknown, had been handed over by order of the Government to the Halles factors for sale by auction, and such a disturbance ensued that it was found necessary to suspend the sale, and to call in armed National Guards to clear the pavilion.

Statistics are no longer published by the Government of the quantity of provisions under their control which are still remaining in Paris; but, if one turns to the *Bulletin Municipal* of a few weeks back, ascertains the stock then on hand, and deducts from it the presumed daily consumption up to the present time, one comes to the conclusion that the stock of fresh butcher's meat will not be entirely exhausted before the end of November. That there is almost a fortnight's supply of salt meat in the Government and private stores, no one would venture to deny. When this is exhausted we shall all have to take to horseflesh, the supply of which, at the rate of 1500 horses a day, will be sufficient for fully a month longer, bringing us up to the middle of January. Then there will remain the waifs and strays, the odds and ends and the scrapings—the undevoured domestic pets, with the rats of the sewers and the carnivora of the Jardin des Plantes for the more high-seasoned palates, and at least four thousand milch cows known to be within the city. Beyond the foregoing there will be, moreover, live rabbits, fowls, and pigeons innumerable, with which prudent people have provided themselves for the moment when the pinch of famine shall come, together with the hoarded-up stores of preserved meats, sardines, and such like condiments. If these should prove sufficient to furnish animal food of some kind to the inhabitants of Paris for another fortnight, it will be the end of January before they are reduced to simple bread and wine, not forgetting the jam, of which the stock appears to be inexhaustible. Possibly fresh vegetables, with the exception of potatoes, will fail by the end of the year; still, if they do, the stock of preserved vegetables is very large, but, unfortunately, very dear.

As for the supply of flour, this is not likely to fail before February, if even then. The Halle-au-Blé was the usual store-place for this commodity; but the Government have filled other immense granaries with sacks and barrels of flour from the floor to the roof, and notably one of the largest of the glass pavilions of the Halles Centrales, shown in one of the sketches that accompany this letter.

A tablet to the memory of Samuel Lover has been placed in St. Patrick's Cathedral, Dublin.

The *Gazette* announces the appointment of Lieutenant-Colonel Charles Osborne Creagh-Osborne, of the first battalion 6th Regiment, to be a Companion of the Bath.

Mr. Anderson, M.P., as arbiter, has given his award in the dispute between the Lanarkshire malleable ironworkers and their employers. He finds that the "nobblers" only are entitled to an increase of 6d. per day. The "doublers" are, it is said, preparing to appeal against this decision.

The Earl of Derby has consented to preside at a banquet to be given in aid of the Royal Albert (northern counties) Asylum for Idiots, in connection with the first election of Lancashire patients at the Townhall, Manchester, on Dec. 16. Sir Titus Salt, Bart., will preside at a public meeting, to be held at Halifax on Dec. 20, on the occasion of the first election of Yorkshire patients.

The prizes awarded to the students of the Royal Scottish Academy were presented, yesterday week, by Sir George Harvey. In distributing the awards, Sir George expressed the regret of the council that the drawings and paintings shown in competition this year—with the exception, perhaps, of those which were purely anatomical—did not compare favourably with those of previous years.

An official notice from the War Office states that all claims for the capitulation allowance of 20s. or 30s., as the case may be, earned under articles 259 or 260 of the volunteer regulations, should be made in the annual returns and nominal rolls dated the 1st inst.; but no claim should be made in the annual returns for the special capitulation allowance of £2 10s. All claims for the last-mentioned allowance should be made in the separate return to be transmitted on April 1, 1871.

OPENING OF THE NORTH GERMAN PARLIAMENT.

SPEECH FROM THE THRONE.

The following is the full text of the Speech from the Throne delivered at the opening of the North German Parliament. It was read by Herr Delbrück, and its reception was enthusiastic:—

Honoured Gentlemen of the Parliament of the North German Confederation,—

His Majesty the King of Prussia has been pleased to confer upon me the task of opening the Parliament of the North German Confederation in the name of the Confederate Governments.

It would have afforded his Majesty great satisfaction to have been present to-day in your midst in order to thank God from this place for the successes with which the arms of the German forces have been blessed, and to express to you the part which the national attitude and unanimity of the Parliament in affording the necessary means for carrying on the war have had in these successes. By the victories—unprecedented in the military history of the world—which by God's will have been gained through the heroic valour and sagacious leadership of the Germans, the aggression undertaken by France against Germany in July last has been repelled. The French people must have acquired the conviction that its present power since the destruction of the armies which were sent into the field against us is not capable of coping with the united military forces of Germany. We should, therefore, be able to regard peace as certain had our unfortunate neighbours a Government the members of which regarded their future as inseparable from that of their country. Such a Government would have seized every opportunity to place the nation at the head of which it has raised itself by its own supreme power in a position to elect a National Assembly, and to deliberate upon the present and future of the country. But the documents which will be submitted to you, gentlemen, by the Presidency of the Confederation will afford you proof that those who now hold the reins of power in France prefer to sacrifice the forces of a noble nation in a hopeless struggle. The incalculable exhaustion and devastation which will be to France the consequences of a continuance of the war under present circumstances must certainly diminish the power of the country to such an extent that its restoration will require a longer period than would be the case in the ordinary course of war. The Confederate Governments, however, are compelled with regret to give expression to their conviction that the peace between these two great neighbouring peoples, upon the continuance of which they calculated less than six months ago, will but be all the more in danger by the remembrance which the impression of this war will leave in France the moment when France, by the restoration of her own strength, or by the conclusion of alliances with other Powers, shall feel herself strong enough to recommence the struggle.

The conditions upon which the allied Governments would be ready to conclude peace have been publicly discussed. It is necessary that they should be commensurate with the greatness of the sacrifices laid upon our country by this war, which, though undertaken without any ground whatsoever, had the assent of the whole French nation. It is, above all things, necessary that they should establish a defendable frontier for Germany against the continuance, by future governors of France, of the policy of conquest which has been pursued for so many hundred years, and that this frontier should be settled in such a way as partly to redress the results of the unfortunate wars which Germany, at a period of internal division, was compelled to wage by the will of France. At the same time, it is necessary that our South German brethren should be freed from the burden of the threatening position which France owes to former conquest.

The Confederate Governments feel that they can rely upon the North German Parliament not to refuse the means which are still required for the attainment of these objects. They are convinced that, now when it is a question of rendering secure the results which have been achieved, they will meet in you the same patriotism and devotion which they found when the task was that of accomplishing the now achieved successes. It is their most profound wish that it will be possible to refrain from using the whole of these means.

In order to afford you a complete survey of the political situation, the Government will lay before you the communications which have recently reached the Ministry for Foreign Affairs respecting the Treaty of Paris of March 30, 1856, and in doing which the Confederate Governments desire to express their hope that the blessings of peace will remain assured to those nations which have hitherto enjoyed them.

The continuance of the war has not prevented the accomplishment of a work of peace. The sentiment of unity, which has been verified by the common danger and the jointly-won victories, the consciousness of the position which Germany, for the first time for centuries, has achieved through her unity, the recognition of the fact that only by the creation of permanent institutions for the future of Germany can a fitting legacy of this time of deeds and sacrifices be assured, have more rapidly and universally than a short time back would have been credible filled the German people and its Princes with the conviction that a stronger link than that afforded by international treaties is needed between the north and the south. This unanimous opinion of the Governments has led to negotiations, the first fruit of which, grown on the field of battle, will be laid before you for approval in the shape of a constitution for a German Confederacy, which has been agreed upon by the North German Confederation, and the Grand Duchies of Baden and Hesse-Darmstadt, and which has been unanimously adopted by the Federal Council. The understanding which has been arrived at upon similar bases with Bavaria will also form the subject of your deliberations, and the agreement of views which exists between the allied Governments and Wurtemburg respecting the object to be arrived at permits us to hope that a similar agreement as to the method of attaining it will not be wanting.

Honoured Gentlemen,—With this work you will worthily close a period of activity such as has rarely been the lot of legislative assemblies. In little more than three years you have helped to further the completion of the Federal Constitution, which was confided to your co-operation by a long list of important laws, entering deeply into the most varied interests of the life of the nation; and by the last of these laws which is submitted to you, before the close of your legislative existence, this Constitution, and the legislation resting thereon, are to be extended across the frontiers which have hitherto separated us from our South German brethren. The great national thought which has always guided you in your deliberations will, with God's help, be brought a decided step nearer to its full realisation by the last discussion for which you assemble.

Herewith, by order of his Majesty the King, Chief of the Bund, and in the name of the Confederate Governments, I declare the Parliament of the North German Confederation to be opened.

MEMBERS OUT OF PARLIAMENT.

Although, in point of length of service, Mr. Grant-Duff can hardly be said to be a young member, there is about him, when he is speaking, a decided flavour of youth, in a Parliamentary sense. Even when he is answering a question, he seems to have pre-considered it, and to have concocted a reply which shall be as much as possible epigrammatic. But when he comes to deliver a set speech, he delivers himself just as he must have done when he had to open a question, in his Under-graduate days, at the Union, in Oxford. It thus happened that when he was out of office, and set forth with one of his elegant essays, so wanting in the clipping tone of House-of-Commons speaking, he was generally left pretty much alone, to hold forth to the benches. Of late, he has an official right to be heard and to speak as long as he likes—and he does like to speak long; but, unfortunately for him, his subject is the Indian Budget; and what the effect on the House that has is only too well known. For some reason or other, though it is not difficult to conjecture the reason, the Duke of Argyll has introduced, as Secretary for India, a novelty in reference to the Indian financial statement, inasmuch as he himself produces it in the House of Lords comparatively early in the Session, and so anticipates the statement of Mr. Grant-Duff, who can only catch an opportunity in the very penultimate week of the Session. Anyone who is aware of Mr. Grant-Duff's peculiar diction, his odd turns of phrase, and how often what he says trembles on the verge of being irritating to some one or the other, can understand the anxious and watchful attention which is paid to him by responsible Ministers while he is discharging his official function in regard to the Indian Budget. Nothing can be more complete than his absorption in the subject, and he goes straight on with the utterance of his well-balanced sentences and semi-epigrams, with apparently an utter unconsciousness of any surroundings, so that his speech seems to be delivered by one in a dream. He has done that which scarcely one can recollect in the traditions of the House—namely, divided a speech into two. In fact, last Session he brought on the Budget so late in a morning sitting that he had only half finished when the hour for adjournment, which is imperative, arrived; so he coolly said that he would resume at the evening sitting, and did so. Moreover, he achieved that, on this occasion, which no one in the memory of man has witnessed before—viz., a long, a useful, and even an interesting debate apropos of the Indian Budget. At Elgin, where he has lately been foregathering with his constituents, Mr. Grant-Duff is, it is said, much appreciated. His style of speaking, and his scholastic and philosophical treatment of each subject on which he touches, is, doubtless, well adapted to a Scottish audience, and not the less because what he says takes the shape of a "discourse," complete in all its parts and sequences. This last utterance of his was eminently characteristic of his form of thought and manner of deliverance.

It is possible that Mr. Knatchbull-Hugessen will not object still to be classed amongst young members, though he knows as much of the inner life, ways, and customs of the House as any man living. Since he has forsaken the duty of a "whip" and taken to the Home Office he has developed all the qualities of which he gave promise as a new independent member ere he lapsed into the reticent position of a Lord of the Treasury. He has had a great deal of the legislation of the Home Office in his hands in the last Session, and has struggled manfully against the overwhelming waves of the large measures beneath which everything has been submerged. It was a sight worth seeing to behold him, often and often, rising at half-past one in the morning, or only a very little earlier, to move the introduction or the second stage of one of his bills which had been rammed down to the bottom of the paper. He seemed as cool and as unconscious of anything extraordinary as if it were five o'clock in the afternoon, and did his work as steadily as if he really expected to get his bill through that year. One trait of courage he has displayed which is remarkable—namely, that for two Sessions he has been zealous in the production and pressing on of a measure the name of which has become a convertible term in the House for dulness—to wit, a turnpike bill. Some attention has been directed to a speech of Mr. Hugessen, addressed lately to his constituents at Sandwich, and deservedly, because the important topics of the day are treated with a boldness and breadth unusual in what is called, in an official sense, a subordinate member of the Government.

The borough of King's Lynn has for many years been represented by more or less distinguished men. Now it has its interests deputed to two young members, both of whom are evidently trying to keep up the traditional Parliamentary reputation of the borough. Since 1868 the Hon. Robert Bourke had been Lord Stanley's colleague; and when that noble Lord became Earl of Derby, the seat he vacated was won gallantly by Lord Claud John Hamilton. Though it was apparent Mr. Bourke had entered himself for a place in the Parliamentary race, and occasionally came forward in debate with a modesty which did him no harm, it was not till last Session that he came really to the front. He achieved a feat and did good service to the State, inasmuch as he brought forward an extraordinary mistake in the mode in which the Inland Revenue levied the stamp duties on leases, and so worked the subject that he caused the Chancellor of the Exchequer to deal with the immediate subject matter by passing a bill to remedy the mistake, and to undertake a revision of the whole system of stamp duties. The member that did this is not likely to want the ear of the House when he wishes it. In a set speech which he made on a controversial Irish subject last Session, Lord Claud John Hamilton, wishing to make a *mot*, unconsciously raised a good laugh against himself. He was introducing an attack on Messrs. Bright, John and Jacob; and he significantly said something about "ambitious families, which sought to thrust themselves forward in the affairs of the State." This was too much for the gravity of the House, when it was so obvious that, besides himself, there are two other sons of the Duke of Abercorn in the House—one of whom sits for Donegal, and the other for Middlesex—and that all of them are as busy and pushing in the House as they can manage to be. Not that they are not smart enough, and plausible enough; but they are none of them entitled to be taken bodily out of that category of memberdom which one is apt to designate as the representation of the younger sons of the aristocracy. They belong to the class of members who like to speak lateish in the discussion, when they are, indeed, in evening dress, and have about them a tolerable collection of the Parliamentary *jeunesse d'or*, who are sure to cheer heartily their neatly prepared points. Of these Lord Claud John and Lord George Hamilton are very favourable specimens, who do successfully get over the disadvantage of very youthful appearance by the confidence and *aplomb* of their manner, as well as by the very fair amount of matter which their speeches contain. Besides this they are evidently well supported by the opinions and the inarticulate suffrages of young Conservatism in the House, while the Opposition leaders look smiling upon them when they are making their efforts.

MUSIC.

THE OPERA.

The promised appearance of Mdlle. Sessi in "La Figlia del Reggimento," on Thursday week, was postponed on account of that lady's indisposition, and replaced by "Le Nozze di Figaro;" and the performances since our last record, therefore, offer but little subject for comment. The one morning representation of the season ("Les Huguenots") was given yesterday (Friday) week; after which, repetitions of operas previously heard occupied the interval until Tuesday, when Mdlle. Sessi reappeared as Violetta in "La Traviata"—a character which she performed several times here during the past regular season. Again, on this latest occasion, the bright voice and brilliant execution of this pleasing singer were heard to advantage in music which is well suited to her powers. Signor Cotogni, as Germont, gave fresh evidence of that progress which has lately placed him in a deservedly high position here. His singing and acting several times displayed a power and pathos that called forth marked applause. Signor Fancelli was the Alfredo, and the subordinate characters were as on former occasions.

Next Saturday is announced as the last night of the season; an extra performance being promised for the following Saturday, when Beethoven's "Fidelio" is to be given, in honour of the hundredth anniversary of the composer's birth.

THE SACRED HARMONIC SOCIETY.

The thirty-ninth season of this great institution commenced, yesterday (Friday) week, with a performance of Handel's "Judas Maccabaeus," conducted by Sir M. Costa, who has now been director of these concerts for a period of twenty-two years.

During the past summer, and in quick succession, two of the most prominent members of the society were removed by death—Mr. R. K. Bowley (the treasurer) and Mr. J. N. Harrison (the president)—and their offices are now filled by Mr. D. Hill and Mr. T. Brewer.

The performance of "Judas," which commenced the new season, presented the same effects of massive grandeur in the combination of gigantic choral and orchestral forces that have so often been exemplified in this as in other works at these concerts. The oratorio was given, as on many previous occasions, with additional accompaniments, with which Sir M. (then Mr.) Costa many years since augmented Handel's score expressly for the use of the society. The solo vocalists had all, except one, been associated with previous oratorio performances here—the exception being Madame Vanzini, whose accomplishments as a dramatic singer have frequently been mentioned by us with encomium in notices of past seasons at the Royal Italian Opera. Her most recent essay stood in strong and disadvantageous contrast to her merits in the former capacity. Neither in style nor knowledge of the music did it seem that Madame Vanzini had exercised much preparation for her task. Her worst effort was the bravura air "From mighty kings," and her best in the air and duet in the last part. Much more study of Handel is requisite before Madame Vanzini can be justified in assuming the position of a principal solo singer in his oratorios. Several of the airs and duets in which Miss Vinta sang on the occasion referred to again displayed the fresh pure quality of voice, unaffected expression, and refinement of this young lady in a degree to justify our former praise and to promise her future progress. The solos "Pious orgies" and "Wise men flatt'ring" were especially well delivered, the shades in the latter having been particularly well executed. Madame Patey gave the air "Father of heaven" and the contralto part in the several duets with her well-known fervent expression; and Mr. Vernon Rigby sang the great declamatory songs "Call forth thy powers" and "Sound an alarm" with enormous vigour of style and chest. Signor Foli gave his principal air "Arm, arm, ye brave" well, and another of the prominent bass solos, "The Lord worketh wonders," not nearly so well. Mr. M. Smith sang the subordinate tenor solo music with his usual efficiency.

The Sacred Harmonic Society intends to pay its tributary homage to Beethoven (in honour of the centenary of his birth), by performing his mass in C, and "The Mount of Olives," on Dec. 16, the eve of the date corresponding with that of the event.

The performance of the symphonies of Beethoven, at the Crystal Palace, was again intermitted at last Saturday's concert, this time in favour of one of the dramatic works of the composer—the music with which he enriched a drama of Kotzebue, that would otherwise have been forgotten long ago. Like the overture "Die Weihe des Hauses," of which we spoke in reference to the sixth concert, three weeks since, "The Ruins of Athens" was also a *pièce d'occasion*, written for the opening of a theatre, in this instance at Pesth, in 1812. The music has been but seldom given entire in this country—in concert performance by the Harmonic Union, conducted by Mr. Benedict, and in a dramatic form at the Princess's Theatre, in 1815. Its exquisite beauty and occasional power and grandeur are in remarkable contrast to the fugitive purpose which it originally served. The pathetic duet, "Faultless, yet hated" (sung by Madame Sinico and Herr Stockhausen), the wondrously dramatic chorus of dervishes, the characteristic Turkish March; the chorus, with march, "Twine ye garlands;" and the several final movements, including the High Priest's solo (powerfully sung by Mr. Patey), all produced a strong and general impression of delight at Saturday's concert, three of the pieces having been encored—the chorus of dervishes, the Turkish March, and the interlude for wind instruments. The work was finely performed throughout, with the exception of an occasional tendency of the choral sopranos to sing out of tune. The solo on Saturday was the unparalleled violin concerto, the single work of the kind produced by Beethoven, and only approached in beauty and power by that of Mendelssohn. In the execution of this, with elaborate cadenzas, Madame Norman-Néruda displayed that pure tone, brilliant mechanism, and refined style which have so often been commented on. Miscellaneous vocal solos, by Madame Sinico and Herr Stockhausen, and Mendelssohn's "Hebrides" overture completed the programme.

The first three Monday Popular Concerts have now completed the performance of Beethoven's six earliest quartets—those classed as op. 18—in all of which the influence of the school of Haydn and Mozart is more or less apparent. The fifth and sixth were given at this week's concert by the same party as on the previous occasions—Madame Norman-Néruda, Mr. L. Ries, Mr. Zerbini, and Signor Piatti. Finely led by the lady, the subordinate parts were sustained in a manner worthy of her. Madame Arabella Goddard was the pianist, and played the solo sonata with Funeral March, and the duet sonata with violin in A minor, in association with the leading violinist: it is needless to say, with great effect.

An English version of "Fra Diavolo" was produced at the Gaiety Theatre last week, with Mr. Santley as the hero—in

volving, of course, some transposition of the music from the compass of a tenor voice to that of a baritone; unavoidable, although Mr. Santley's range is exceptionally high. The change is attended with some loss of that light grace of style which so peculiarly characterises the charming music of one of Auber's best works. How finely Mr. Santley sang need scarcely be said; his several solos, "On yonder rock," "Young Agnes," and the scene in the last act, were each given with great effect, and the two former encored. Madame F. Lancia sang and acted very cleverly as Zerlina, and gave the introduced song in the second act with much brilliancy. Mr. A. Byron, as Lorenzo, forced a voice that will not bear much strain, and is sufficiently powerful in a moderate space without such effort. His singing was much applauded, and was, indeed, far better than his acting. That clever actor and singer, Mr. C. Lyall, gave an amusing, but somewhat too farcical, caricature of Lord Alceash; the wife of whom was personated with much spirit by Miss Tremaine. The two bandits were played with great gusto—occasionally a little over-acted—by Mr. Stoyle and Mr. A. Cook. The opera has been very well placed on the stage—the chorus, although not numerous, is bright and effective; the costumes are new and appropriate. There is some good ballet action in the last scene, and the scene itself—the rocky ravine where the bandit meets his fate—is very cleverly painted and contrived. Some reductions in the wind instruments of the original score are not justifiable when applied to such a masterpiece as Auber's charming opera.

Mr. F. H. Cowen's new cantata, "The Rose Maiden," was performed, at St. James's Hall, last week, with much success. The subject is almost identical with that of one of Robert Schumann's compositions for voices and orchestra. The text of the English work has been prepared by Mr. R. E. Francillon, and is divided into recitatives, solos, concerted pieces, and choruses—four characters being concerned in the imaginary action—Rose-Blossom, the Gardener's Daughter, the Forester, and Spring, the solos for whom were sung by Mdlle. Titians, Madame Patey, Mr. Nordblom, and Herr Stockhausen. The most effective of their several performances were the air for Rose-Blossom, "Bloom on;" that for the Gardener's Daughter, "Yet chime they so sadly" (encored); and the duet for the first-named character and the Forester, "I know a rose-bud" (the last part encored). Some of the best writing is in the choral part of the work; especially in the opening movement, "Green vale," and in the chorus, "Tis thy wedding-morn," the latter of which—a bright and jubilant piece in march style—was encored by acclamation. Mr. Cowen writes for the orchestra with a skill and a command of its varied resources and effects that are remarkable in so young a composer. With a tendency to diffuseness and a too ready acceptance of first thoughts, there is yet so much talent and promise in this new production as to hold out strong prospect of better works to come.

Mr. Mapleson has announced a performance of Rossini's "Messe Solennelle," to take place at St. James's Hall on Wednesday next, when Madame Alboni will sing the contralto solo music, originally written for her.

THEATRES.

The Princess's has been doing great business with "The Peep o' Day," "Handy Andy," "The Pretty Girls of Stilberg," and Mr. Webster in his impersonation of Napoleon I., which makes the principal feature of the last-named drama. The last appearances of Madame Celeste at the Adelphi include her performances as Cynthia in "The Flowers of the Forest," and as Miami in the "Green Bushes." The Surrey sustains its reputation for spectacle by representing the incidents of the battle-field in a highly picturesque manner. A new burlesque has been produced at the Royalty which, not claiming much on the score of literary merit, has more bustle and genuine stage-effect than many we have lately witnessed. It is written by Mr. R. Reece, and is entitled "Whittington Junior and his Sensation Cat." The author calls it "civic burlesque," because the prominent phases of City life are the chief objects of its satire. Whittington junior is represented as having been disgusted with the tomfooleries of the mayoralty, and as running away to Morocco, under the guidance of Ozokerit Ben Zodyne, in order to escape the infliction of being made chief magistrate of the City. Credit is taken for not having introduced any music later than the fourteenth century. At any rate, it was well sung, and the parts were most vigorously sustained. Miss Hodson acted with immense energy as Dick, and was admirably seconded by Miss Rachel Sanger as Sir Highbury de Barne, and by Mr. Oliver Summers as Alderman Callipash. The scenery throughout is excellent.

"Fernande," at the St. James's, continues to be attractive, owing, no doubt, to the power of Mrs. Vezin's acting. The drama is now supplemented by an amusing farce of Mr. Cheltnam, the characters of which are supported by Messrs. Lionel Brough, Cox, and Leeson. It is entitled "Christmas Eve," on which two tradesmen find themselves in a watch-house together, each mistaking the other for an atrocious criminal. The situation is not new to the boards, and we think that we have seen the piece before; nevertheless, it merits notice, inasmuch as the idea is carried out by all concerned very completely, and entirely to the satisfaction of the audience.

At the Opéra Comique a change was effected on Monday evening, and the ever-welcome comedy, by Madame Emile de Girardin, entitled "La Joie fait Peur," was performed. Mdlle. Riel was Blanche; and M. Legrenay, Noel; both of which characters were very respectably acted, though in the latter we could not forget M. Regnier. Mdlle. Déjazet appeared as the youthful Arout de Voltaire, in a two-act comédie-vauville, in which the hero is brought into connection with Ninon de Lenclos (Madame Pauline Lyon). The piece is so slight that it may not be subjected to minute criticism. The entertainment concluded with a ludicrous vaudeville, called "La P'tit de la Bonne," in which a little dog is mistaken for a baby—a notion ingeniously worked out to the last degree of absurdity.

Mrs. Edward Thomas's new and interesting drama of "The Wife's Tragedy" has been accepted at the Standard, and will shortly be produced. Miss Edith Heraud will sustain the part of the heroine, ably supported by Mr. Emery and a powerful company. The action of the piece is founded on a striking event, which commanded public attention in Paris towards the end of the reign of Louis Philippe.

It is stated that the honour of a Knight Commandership of the Bath is to be conferred on Mr. William George Anderson, of the Audit and Exchequer Department.

Mr. M. E. Corbally, whose death has been announced, sat in the House of Commons for Meath during nearly thirty years, and by his decease there is a vacancy in the representation of that county. The hon. gentleman was seventy-three years of age.



ENROLLING VOLUNTEERS FOR THE ARMY OF GARIBALDI IN THE PLACE DE L'HOTEL DE VILLE, LYONS.



INSIDE PARIS: DEPARTURE OF ENGLISH AND AMERICANS (SKETCH BY BALLOON POST).

OBITUARY OF EMINENT PERSONS.

THE HON. J. F. STUART-WORTLEY.

The Hon. James Frederick Stuart-Wortley, D.L., died, on the 27th ult., at Wharncliffe House. He was born Jan. 16, 1833, the third son of John, second Lord Wharncliffe, by Lady Georgiana Elizabeth, his wife, daughter of Dudley, first Earl of Harrowby. Descended from the Stuarts, the Wortleys, and the Montagues, Mr. Stuart-Wortley inherited considerable ability, and gave early promise of future distinction; but ill-health broke him down in the prime of life. In 1860 he accompanied, as First Attaché, Lord Elgin's special mission to China, and, returning to England the following year, became Private Secretary to Mr. Gladstone. In 1865 he went with Earl Cowper to Copenhagen, when his Lordship proceeded thither for the purpose of investing the King of Denmark with the insignia of the Garter, and on that occasion Mr. Stuart-Wortley was made a Commander of the Dannebrog. At the general election in the same year he contested, unsuccessfully, the borough of Sheffield.

THE ARCHDEACON OF LONDON.

The Ven. William Hale Hale, M.A., Archdeacon of London, died on the 17th ult., at the Master's Lodge, Charterhouse, aged about seventy-five. He received his education at the Charterhouse, and at Oriel College, Oxford, where he graduated in honours in 1817. Having taken orders he became successively Preacher of the Charterhouse, Chaplain to the Bishop of London, Master of the Hospital of the Charterhouse, Rector of Cripplegate, Archdeacon of Middlesex, and Archdeacon of London. Archdeacon Hale was author of many pamphlets, tracts, and sermons, as well as of "Some Account of the Past History and Present Condition of the Charterhouse," "Some Account of Christ's Hospital," &c. He also edited, in conjunction with Dr. Lonsdale, afterwards Bishop of Lichfield, the four Gospels, with annotations, besides several devotional works for the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge, and contributed largely to the "Encyclopædia Metropolitana."

GENERAL CARMICHAEL, C.B.

Charles Montauban Carmichael, C.B., a General in the Army, and Colonel of the 20th Hussars, died, on the 21st ult., at the Hôtel du Louvre, Boulogne-sur-Mer, in his eightieth year. He was fourth son of James Carmichael Smyth, M.D., F.R.S., a very distinguished physician of the time of George III., and derived descent from the Balmedy branch of the great Scottish family of Carmichael. His eldest brother, the late Major-General Sir James Carmichael Smyth, K.C.H., C.B., commanded the Engineers at Waterloo, and was created a Baronet in 1821. General Carmichael, who was educated at the Charterhouse and at the Royal Military College, Great Marlow, was appointed a cadet in the Bengal Cavalry in 1807, and during his lengthened career saw much service in India. In 1812 he was at the capture of Callinger, and went through the Mahratta and Pindaree war of 1817-9. In 1837 he commanded a light detachment, and took possession of the Raj of Jawra Mairpore; and in 1838 was in the campaign of Afghanistan, including the forcing of the Bolan pass, the capture of Candahar and Ghuznee, the occupation of Cabool and Jellalabad, and the passage of the Khyber pass. He married, in March, 1841, Mary Eliot, daughter of Captain Allan Graham, by whom he leaves issue.

DR. PLUMPTRE.

The Rev. Frederick Charles Plumptre, D.D., Master of University College, Cambridge, died, at his residence in college, on the 21st ult. He was born Aug. 17, 1796, the third son of the Rev. Charles Plumptre, Rector of Teversal, Notts, by Mary, his wife, daughter of Joseph Millar, Esq., of Mansfield, and was grandson of Septimus Plumptre, a younger son of John Plumptre, Esq., of Nottingham, by Annabella, his wife, eldest daughter of Sir Francis Molyneux, Bart. Dr. Plumptre held for many years a fellowship at the University, on the Durham foundation, and was successively Tutor, Dean, and Bursar in his college. In 1836 he was elected, in succession to Dr. Rowley, Master of University College, and in 1848 served as Vice-Chancellor. For many years he took an active part in University business, and at the time of his death held the office of Delegate of Estates and Privileges. The late Mr. John Pemberton Plumptre, of Fredville, Kent, the head of the ancient family of which Dr. Plumptre was a descendant, represented East Kent in Parliament.

MR. CORBALLY, M.P.

Matthew Elias Corbally, Esq., of Corbalton Hall, in the county of Meath, J.P. and D.L., M.P. for that county since the year 1840, died, on the 24th ult., at his seat, Corbalton, near Tara. He was born in April, 1797, the only son of Elias Corbally, Esq., of Corbalton, by Mary, his wife, widow of Frederick Netterville, Esq., of Woodbrook, in the county of Galway. He married, June 17, 1842, the Hon. Matilda Preston, daughter of Jenico, twelfth Viscount Gormanston; and leaves an only child and heiress, Mary Margaret, married, Sept. 18, 1865, to the Hon. Alfred Stourton, eldest son of Charles, present Lord Stourton. Mr. Corbally's only sister, Louisa, married, in 1817, Arthur James, ninth Earl of Fingall, K.P., and died April 10, 1866. Mr. Corbally, who had a large property in Meath, was for many years Vice-Lieutenant, and served as High Sheriff in 1838. In politics an advanced Liberal, he advocated the ballot and tenant-right in Ireland.

Colonel Daubeny inspected the Oxford University Rifle Corps on Tuesday. He complimented the corps upon the way in which the work had been done, but recommended a more frequent attendance on the part of the members at company drill, and expressed his intention of making a favourable report to Government.

The Board of Trade returns have been issued. The value of the imports for September was £21,934,182, as compared with £23,138,033 in the corresponding month last year. For the nine months ended Sept. 30 the imports were £182,400,543, as against £171,721,097 last year. The exports in October increased more than a million sterling in value, being £17,550,799; and for the ten months they amounted to £166,184,990, as compared with £150,162,432 last year.

The Poor-Law Board has issued an order respecting the boarding out of pauper children. Hitherto the guardians have been unable to place out children in any homes beyond the limits of their own unions. The new order, however, empowers the guardians of the larger urban unions to avail themselves of the boarding-out system, by giving them greater freedom in the choice of locality to which the children may be sent. The order recommends that there should be no boarding with outdoor paupers; that, in the foster parents, open air should be preferred to sedentary labour, that especial attention should be paid to decent accommodation, and the proper separation of the sexes; that great care should be taken to provide the children with education and with clothing; and that all boarding out in large towns should be avoided.

CHESS.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

G. DE M., Belgium.—We have played over your game with much pleasure. It presents many points of interest, and, but that both combatants overlook an opportunity of winning more than once, it should be inserted. If you will examine the situation after White's 27th move, you will find, we think, that Black could have obtained a marked advantage by playing P to K 5th, instead of P to K 6th. So also would White at move 39, by taking the Kt Pawn with his Q Rook.

V. N. P.—Declined, with thanks.

SHEPHERD, of Baltimore.—They are both too simple for publication.

T. A. HIND.—Evidently first attempts, and suitable, therefore, only for novices in chess.

A. DENDRINO.—No. 13 appears to be correct, but that is its only merit. The first move is very obvious, and the remaining three moves are a réchauffé of the Indian Problem.

R. B. W.—If we mistake not, No. 4 is susceptible of a second solution by I. P to K B 5th, K takes P, 2. Kt to K 5th, and mate next move.

F. J. BENNETT.—It shall have due attention.

A. HUNTER.—No. 10 is a very creditable composition for a young player, though not sufficiently pleasant for the chess-player. No. 12 requires too many moves for the solution.

OMEO must be good enough to send his name and address with his contributions.

F. C. STOCKTON.—No. 1 is much too easy. No. 2 is certainly "symmetrical," and that, we fear, is its only recommendation.

J. N. K.—Nos. 2 and 4 have been marked for insertion. The others are not quite up to our standard.

I. W. A.—It is now quite sound, and forms a very elegant little stratagem.

D. H. B., and Others.—It is not practicable to amend an incorrectly printed problem with the celerity you imagine. It has to be returned to three or four examiners for re-examination, and when each of them has reported on it, the author has to see it and give his explanation. All this occupies many days. When the author resides abroad, it sometimes takes up many weeks. Fortunately, defective problems are rare, though, strangely enough, when one does occur another often follows.

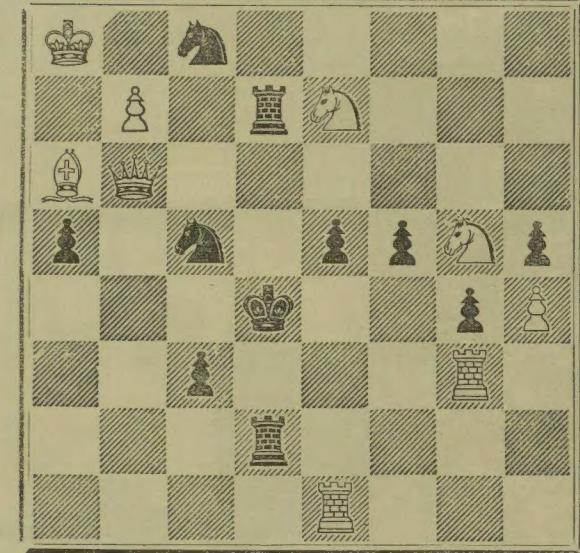
WHITE. BLACK. WHITE. BLACK.
1. B to Q Kt 6th P takes B 3. Kt or Q gives mate.

WHITE. BLACK. WHITE. BLACK.
1. K to Q Kt 6th P to K R 3rd* 4. Kt to Kt 2nd, dis. ch and mate.

* 1. P to K R 4th P moves 3. R to B 4th P moves

PROBLEM NO. 1397.
By Mr. W. GRIMSHAW.

BLACK.



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August, 1869.

NATIONAL INSTITUTION FOR DISEASES OF THE SKIN, Gray's-inn-road and Mitre street.

Physician, Dr. Barr Meadows, 49

THE CUNARD STEAMER
ABYSSINIA.

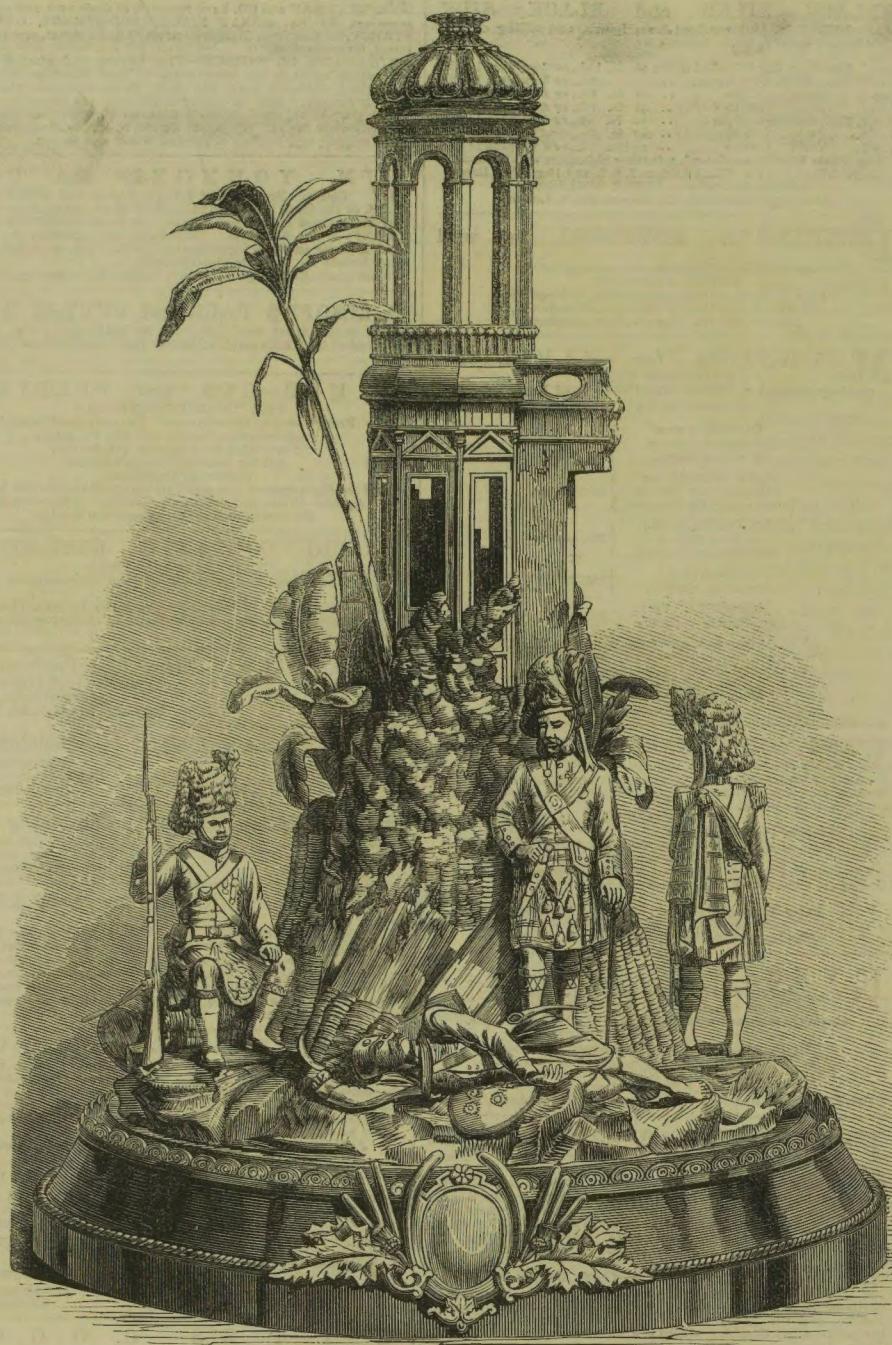
The screw steam-ship Abyssinia is one of the latest additions to the fleet of the British and North American Royal Mail Steam-Packet Company, popularly known as the Cunard Company. This noble vessel, of 3500 gross register tonnage, and with 600-horse power engines, was built very recently by Messrs. James and George Thomson, of the Clyde Bank Foundry, Glasgow, specially for the postal service between Great Britain and the United States. Her dimensions are 360 ft. length of keel, 42 ft. breadth (moulded), and 35 ft. 6 in. in depth. Her engine-power was indicated by the Admiralty trial at 3150 horses, and her speed at 15 knots per hour. She has accommodation on the spar-deck for about 120 first-class passengers, the dining-saloons and sleeping-apartments for whom are very well lighted, heated, and ventilated, and for whose comfort and security neither trouble nor expense has been spared. On the spar-deck, too, are the kitchens, sculleries, pantries, ice-houses, bakery, and butchery, as well as the lavatories. The Abyssinia is provided with a male and female hospital and a dispensary. She is furnished with two sets of Normanby's distilling apparatus, capable of producing 2000 gallons of fresh water each day. On the main and lower decks is accommodation for about 1000 third-class passengers, or, if need were, for a regiment of two battalions of soldiers. These decks, also, are admirably lighted, heated, and ventilated. In her holds the Abyssinia has a capacity of 80,000 cubic feet; and she can carry 1200 tons of coals in her bunkers. This vessel, like the other ships of the Cunard Company, has been built under special inspection; and the iron and other material used in her construction are of the same quality as those of the Russia. The hull is divided into eight water-tight compartments. In her general arrangement and equipment this vessel, with her sister ships the Algeria and Parthia, will fully maintain the well-earned reputation of the Cunard Company. It will be remembered that when the present Government agreed to renew the Cunard contract, last year, Mr. Burns, acting for that company, intimated that several new ships would be immediately contracted for, in order to carry out the postal service in the manner in which it had been done by that company for the last thirty years, and that these new vessels would be ready for service during the currency of the present year. To redeem this pledge, four powerful steam-ships were contracted for, of which the Abyssinia is the representative type.

THE 93RD (SUTHERLAND)
HIGHLANDERS.

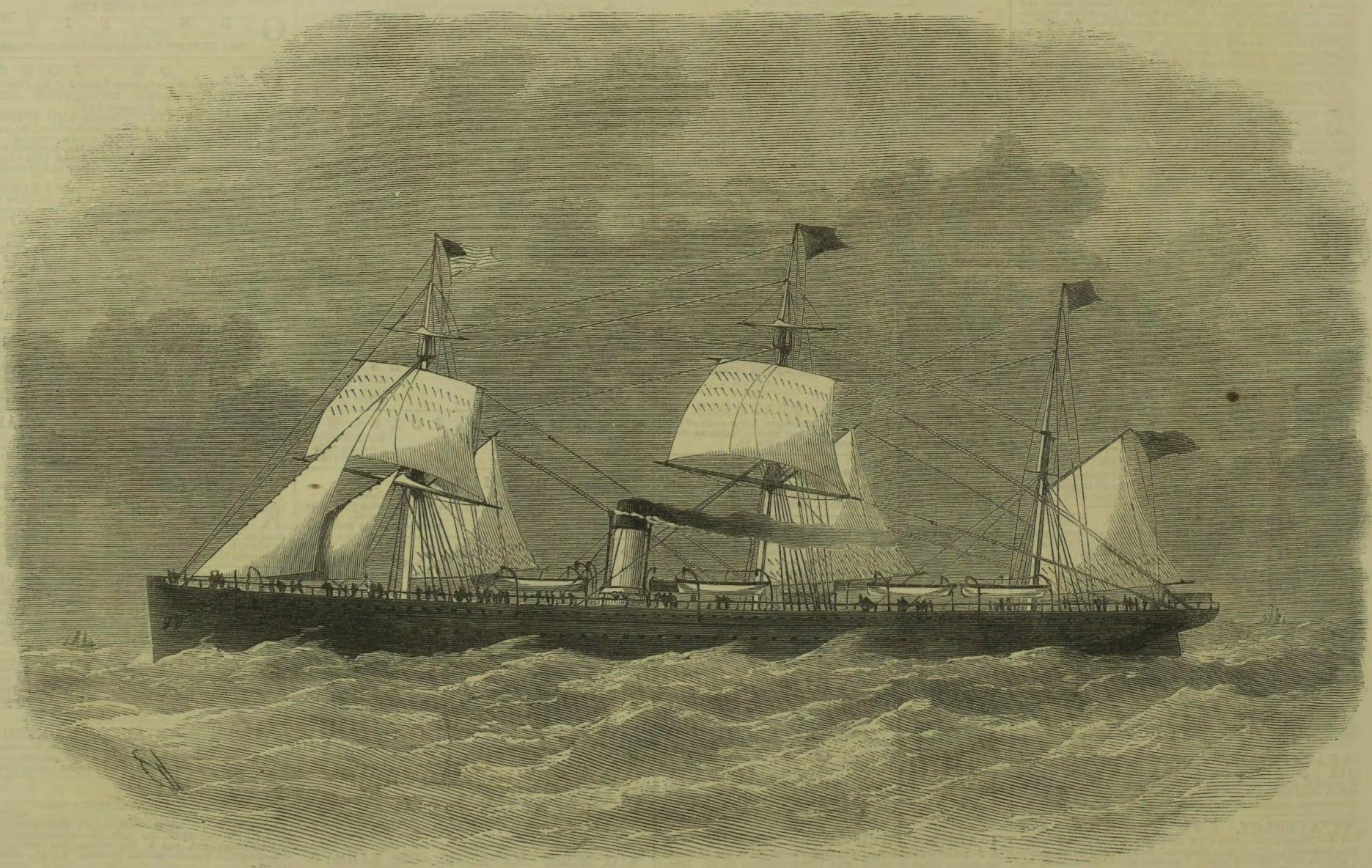
A noble ornamental centrepiece of silver has been placed on the officers' mess-table of this gallant regiment. It has been manufactured by Messrs. Elkington and Co., Birmingham, from designs furnished by one of the officers of the regiment to M. Wilms, their artist. The sculpture on one side is supposed to represent the shot-riven walls of an outwork at Sebastopol, where an officer of the 93rd contemplates the dead body of a Russian soldier lying near a private of the regiment, who reclines severely wounded; the regimental pipe-major, in a commanding position above the group, playing, we suppose, "the gathering." The other side has an exact reproduction, from a photograph, of one of the gateway-towers of the Secundra-Bagh, at Lucknow, where the mutineers and Oude rebels lost over 2000 men killed, when the place was stormed by the Sutherland Highlanders, supported by the 53rd Regiment and the 4th Punjaub Infantry, at the relief of Lucknow, under Sir Colin Campbell, in November, 1857. An officer and private of the 93rd and a dead Sepoy emblematic that terrible Indian struggle and its result, when the cowardly massacres at Cawnpore were avenged in such a fashion that the "gogwallah," or "petticoat men," as the natives called the Highlanders, became a name of terror to all rebels over India. The pedestal, of ebony, is ornamented with two shields, supported with cat's-tail grass, the badge of the Sutherland clan, and with the national emblem, the thistle. One shield bears the number and badge of the regiment; the other, the presentation inscription, describing it as a memorial from some of the officers (whose names run round the top of the pedestal) of the Crimean War of 1854 and of the Indian Mutiny of 1857.

This beautiful work, in July last, was shown to the Queen, by permission, at Windsor Castle, who was graciously pleased to express her approval both of the design and workmanship; and it was afterwards exhibited by Messrs. Elkington, in their tent at the Wimbledon meeting, where it was much admired. The whole cost of it exceeds £470.

In connection with the 93rd Regiment, now quartered at Aberdeen, Fort George, Perth, and Stirling Castle since its return from India on March 28 last, we are informed that the pipe-major's banner, represented in the centrepiece, was the work of two Scotch young ladies, who presented it to the officers on the return of the regiment from the Crimea in 1856, with some lines of appropriate verse.



CENTREPIECE FOR MESS-TABLE OF 93RD FOOT.



THE SCREW STEAM-SHIP ABYSSINIA.